

Laquei ridiculosi:

OR

Springes for Woodcocks.

By H. P.

L.C:N:1.

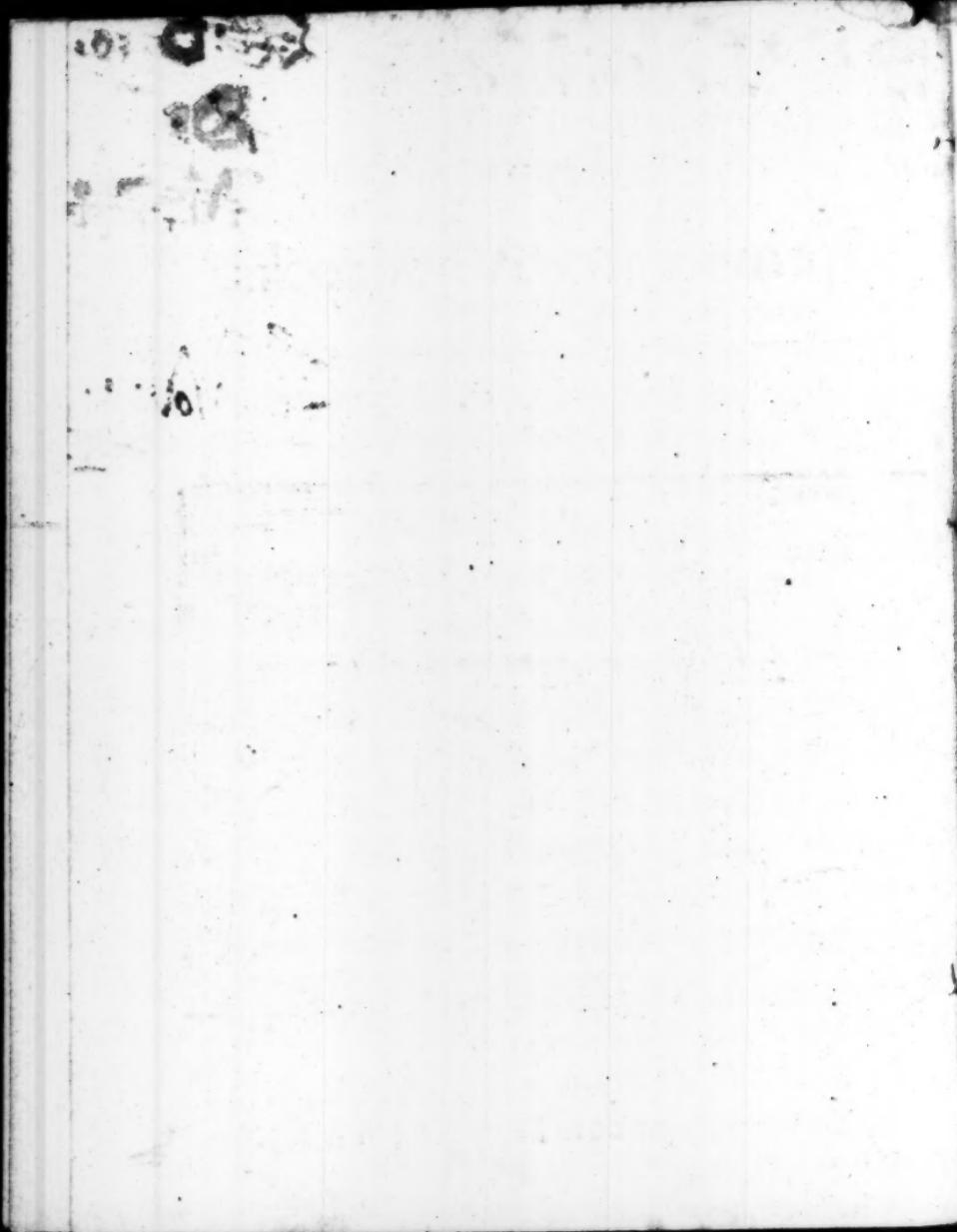
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LONDON,

Printed for John Busby, and are to be sold in S. Dun-
stans Church-yard in Fleetstreet. 1613.







Lectori benigno, Scienti, & ignoto.



*Vo prope modum anni elapsi sunt, ex
quo primum Epigramata hæc (quali-
acunque) raptim & festinanter perfi-
ciebam: Quæ cum Capellano siue Offi-
ciali etiam visa (sicuti mos est) & approbata, tunc
equidem aut non omnino in lucem prodirent: par-
tim quod secundum tempora & occasionem com-
posita aptiora magis & recentiora gustare vide-
antur; & quod hisce studijs aut potius vanitati-
bus minus iamdudum versatus, valedixisse. Sed
num placuerit ei cum Typographo citius agere, cui
gratis (ut priora) lubenter contuli: aut alia (qua-
nescio) impeditus occasione, eadem sine me edita
iam sunt, & in publicum diuulgata: Si tamen*

Ad Lectorem.

cuicunque fortasse placeant perlegenti, mihi etiam
gratissimum fuerit & perplacebunt, dummodo
que commissa sint errata, humaniter condonauer-
it, aut que omissa, non culpauerit imprudenter.
At non sum nescius quam amara & virulenta
quorundam sint ingenia, quicum mellis nihil ha-
beant, aculeum tamen venenatum gerunt, quo
obuium quemque vulnerent atque insectentur:
Hisce, ego Absinthium & graueolentes herbas po-
tius quam suauissimas rosas gratique odoris
Thymum (Hybleis Apibus degustandum) offerrem.
Sed ut desistam paucis; Si qui denique laqueis istis
(quemadmodum appellantur) necesse & volenter
modo incidere certabunt, ita quod de me pessime
& immerito postea loquentur, talibus ego prox-
ima tantummodo editione, clanculum (coactus)
responsionem faciam.

Hen : Parrot.

Vni, si possim posse placere, sat est.



To the Reader.

TO the Courteous, Generous, and Scolastické Readers, I cannot stoop too submissiue-low with that obseruance which to them belongeth. But to th' illiterat and home-spun-Peasants, proue I as harsh & indigestable as is their spite and ignorance vntreproueable. I know I shall be fowly censured of some *Slauonian*s that scarce haue any taste or feeling of inuention ; yet will be medling though they cry but Mew, whom to reuenge were lesse expedient by how much the labor in so base a busines would proue impertinent. If any one in the reading hereof shall ought assume to his owne particular, and say exprefly it is ment by him, I cannot helpe his incredulitie, but rather wish his folly more appa-

To the Reader.

rant, that men might note him as a publicke
Cockscombe.

For mine owne part, I had long since bidden
adue to these idle toyes, not thinking my
labours (done then) should now againe be
brought vnto the Presse, which is indeed with-
out my priuitie. Wherfore, if any thing soever
be escaped or misplaced, it shall not be imputed
vnto my fault, being I neither was nor would be
thereunto consenting or assisting: Nor shall I
neede be so obsequious, seeing it was only done
then to please my selfe; much lesse to vse any
long Apollogie, which were to erect a large
Portall to a little Cottage. In briefe, it is to me
no otherwise then as a cast or game at Passage,
that am indifferent though I fling out at first:
and therefore to conclude, as I seeke to please
none, so looke I for as little thankes, lesse prayse,
and least reward: so farewell.

H. P.



To the vulgar Censurers.

If my ill-tuned Rimes content the wise,
Whose deeper iudgements I desire to please,
Let not the ruder sort be so precise,
That (Criticke seeming) cannot censure these.
I write not to the rusticke Rabblement,
Nor fawne upon the curios kinde of men,
But hold it more then bootlesse labour spent
To beg ge their poore applause; nor care I then
If such repine, whose envy cannot hurt,
Though like a raging sea they foame their durt.

My



MY honest friends that reades, I you beseech
To make the best construction of each letter;
And not to blame my lauishnesse of speech,
In payng soundly where I am a debter :
My word and credit else you should infringe,
Which was to catch the Woodcock in a Springe.

Springes

SPRINGS FOR VVoodcocks.

Crippati erines, Plume, dant calcar amori.

Why is young *Ana* thus with feathers dight?
And on his shoulder wears a dangling locke:
The one foretels he'll sooner flic then fight;
The other shewes hee's wrapt in's mothers
But wherefore wears he such a llingling spur? (smock.)
Oh, he deales oft with Iades that will not stir.

2

Pari iugo sociantur Afini.

Cothurnus thinks he hath the rarest wit,
That any selfe-conceit can glory in;
Doe but applaud him, and you are as fit
Vnto his purpose as an Alle to's skin:
Marke if to Paules the Gallant be not gone,
You seldom there see one foole walke alone.

B

Consuetudo



Epigrams.

3

Consuetudo, lex.

Two wooers for a vvench were each at strife,
Which should enioy her to his wedded wife :
Quoth th'one, shee's mine, because I first her saw,
Shee's mine, quoth th'other, by 'Pye-corner law ;
Where, sticking once a *Prick* on what you buy
It's then your owne, which no man must deny.

4

Ingrata Gratia.

Grace, I confesse, she hath a comely face,
Good hand and foote, as answerable to it :
But whats all this except she had more grace ?
Oh, you will say, tis want that makes her doe it.
True: want of grace indeed; the more her shame,
Disgrace by nature, onely *Grace* by name.

Qno



Epigrams.

5

Quo maior, peior.

*L*eatus, that late a great Deuine did meet,
Would, iesting, needs presume his health to greet,
Who (not offended) told him he was well :
Lord then, quoth *Letus*, see what lyes men tell,
Last day I was abroad, where I did heare
Your Worship hath beene speebleſſe all this yare.

6

Magnis fortuna nocet.

*T*wo Knights in *London* (the Tearme being ended)
Would of a Scriuener borrow fifty pound :
Who said , by him they could not be befriended
nleſſe a Citizen with them were bound :
For, quoth the Scriuener, thus much vnderstand,
The men we trust haue eyther goods or Land.

Qno



Epigrams.

7

Videantur que non sunt.

Saltus goes booted to the dauncing Schoole,
As if from thence his meaning were to ride ;
But *Saltus* says they keepe his legs more coole,
And which for eale he better may abide :
Tut, that's a cold excuse. It rather seem'd
Saltus silke stockings were not yet redeem'd,

8

Umbras non scelus metnit.

Mistresse *Marina* starts to see a Frog,
A naked Rapier, or a creeping Mouse;
To heare a Gun, a barking mastiuue Dog,
Or smell Tobacco that defiles her house,
To taste of Fish no man aliuie shall woe her,
Yet feares she not what flesh can docvnto her :

Saltus



Epigrams.

9

Salem videretur.

A Welshman and an Englishman disputed,
Which of their lands maintain'd the greatest state;
The Englishman the Welshman quite confuted,
It would the Welshman nought his brags abate,
Ten Cooks (quoth he) in Wales one Wedding fees:
True, quoth the other, each man tost his Cheese.

10

Lates aliquid intus.

Mistresse Mallina waxeth ill at ease,
And keepes her Bed, sicke of a burning feuer:
But shee's perswaded tis some worse disease,
And that the foolish Doctor doth deceiue her,
For why? shee feeles it shooting in her bones,
That griping puts her to most grieuous grones.

B 3

Naturam

Salu-



Epigrams.

11

Naturam expellere durum.

Profeso borrowes, but ne'er payes againe,
(A custome he hath kept e'er since his Cradle)
Although you binde him in an Iron chaine,
Can any man pay debts morethen hee's able?
Fore God, not he. Let *Nosferint* sinke or swim,
Hee sooner deale with *Kate*, though she pay him.

12

Tempora praesagit Venus.

Kate, for a need, deales in Astronomic,
And can of times and things prognosticate ;
For as they vse vpon their backes to lie,
And censure of the weathers changing state ;
So she (her body laid) can prophesie
Whether it shall proue colde, hot, moyst, or dry.

Sensi



Epigrams.

I 3

Sensus falluntur inepte.

VVAT told his wife she closely plaid the whore,
For, *ipso facto*, he himselfe espide it
From forth the key-hole of the chamber dore :
But she regardles to his teeth denide it
Saying, *Thou Rascall, will beleue thine eyes*
Before thy Wife, that in thy bosome lyes?

I 4

Improbè Neptunum accusat qui bis naufragium fecit.

SUSAN hath sworne to deale no more on trust,
What shift so ever she be forst to make her ;
For such as promise most in heat of lust
Will least performe (saith Susan) but forsake her :
And can ye blame her then? iudge those that know it,
Twice to be got with childe and no man owe it ?

Sensi

B 4

Inglunisim



Epigrams.

15

Ingluuiem sequitur famas.

Curio would feed vpon the daintiest fare,
That with the Court or Countrie might compare,
For what lets Curio that hee need to care,
To frolick freely with the proud st that dare.
But his excelle was such in all things rare,
As he proou'd bankerout ere he was aware.

16

Omnis viceffitudo grata.

Parnell accompts it deepest pollicie,
To shift her lodging euery month at least;
Tis strange you should demand the reason why,
Are not her Clyents thereby more increast?
Besides, her yeares and actions yet in prime,
That els might proue a Baude before her time.

Nunquam



Epigrams.

17

Nunquam saturata libido.

*V*cas so long lies surfeiting in's Bed
As seldome it permits him rise to dinner
Vntill his lustfull appetite be fed,
Whiles hee's consorting with some femall sinner,
Whom hackney-like he hires from night till noone,
And turnes her off his iourney being done.

18

Spreta tamen vihunt.

*I*ccunda is become an idle liuer,
Supported by the bounties of so many
As may be thought the fault is in the giuer,
Then pitty twere she be releiu'd by any.

And yet you'l say, if there were none to giue,
How should such creatures as *ICCUNDA* liue?

Nem



Epigrams.

19

Nor omnia possumus omnes.

Fuscus forgets since first he was a Clarke,
And (now I thinke on't) well he might doe so,
That had of learning but so little sparke :
Should he remember what he did not know ?
No matter (*Fuscus*) halfe t'hexchequer knowes thee,
That now so ancient shall not need to poze thee.

20

Sequitur vestigia matris.

Tis maruail'd much how *Mariiba* holds it out,
That's thought to haue so little commings in,
Pish, none that knowes her duely makes that doubt :
Besides, she comes not of so base a kin,
For though her father were of Gentry wide,
Shee's borne a mad wench by the mothers side.

Quantum

Epigrams.

21

Quantum mutatus ab illo.

*P*edes growne proud, makes men admire thereat,
Whose baser breeding should (they think) not beare
Nay he on Cock-horse rides, hovv like you that? (it,
Tut *Pedes* prouerbe is, *win gold and weare it*:
But *Pedes* you haue seenethem rise in hast,
That through their pride haue broake their neckes at
(last.

22

Malam commune primarum incendiis.

*H*Ellens of Troy, was held a wondrous Woman,
(If all things wondrous be which vve admire)
Yet neuer was she knowne so wondrous common,
Though against her will, she caus'd that vvondrous fire:
But wondrous is our *H*ellens more mistrust,
That kindles thousands with her fire of lust.

Modo



Epigrams.

23

Modò dines, pessimus vocetur.

PRANUS th' Atturny prooues himselfe to blame,
By taking, as tis said, excessive fees ;
But his excuse is others doe the same,
Which else for want of asking they should leese :
Tut, who is he but scandall may deprauie,
That twice was vnder-Shreiuie and yet no K. ?

24

Sat, si formosa Camilla.

CAMILLA hath a faire and pleasing face,
But it's as common as her conuersation,
She like esteemes your praise as her disgrace,
That with a poxe bids farewell reputation ;
For shce'l maintaine the course she first began,
To sware, earowse, or lye with any man.

Vrisur



Epigrams.

25

Vritur omnis Amor.

I Wonder *Petrus* lookes so paily on it,
Whose late resemblance seem'd of sanguine hue?
You shall not need (Sir) question much vpon it,
Tis too well knowne how (with a poxe) it grew:
 Twas ne'er yet found with him since first he swore,
 To loue *Rebecca* that polluted —

26

Domi parcus, foras prodigus.

VV Hen *Tornius* seldomes sups or dines abroad,
 He seemes more curious then the best at table,
And with the daintiest dishes layes on load,
Although it cost him more then's meanes is able:
 Thus at one meale himselfe the *Bazard* robs,
 That basely feedes at home on hearing-cobs

NARRATIVE OF A LIFE



Epigrams.

27

Nummorum impensas, non Veneris luxum fugit.

Gafredus growne a flincher now of late,
Mongst his Comrages (as men he neuer knew)
Will henceforth (sweares) those cursed courses hate;
And truely learne to lead his life anew,
For proose whereof and to auoyd such cost,
He keepes him onely to one Wench at most.

28

Ingenium, venteris amor, et pectus ledunt.

Vhy should not *Procus* haue a pregnant vvit,
That hath so many proofes thereof profest,
I see no reason much should hinder it,
Hee's rich inough, and fareth of the best :
Drinckes as good liquor as is made of malt,
But vwith his meat he eates too little Salt.

Quis



Epigrams.

29

Quis tanti emeret paenitentiam?

Simplex; a Citizen was guld of late,
Who sporting scarce a minute with his wench,
Bought his repentance at so deare a rate,
Asere he could the Panders fury quench
Was forst through coward feare, to pay the shot,
Which might ensue that Simplex never got.

30

Quam sequimur deteriora.

Aurentius hath of Ladies long beene lou'd,
But he Adonis-like regards them not,
Nor by their best inticements can be mou'd,
And yet an issue of his loynes hath got:
By whom thinke you? some beautious Nymph at least:
To tell you true by Ioane his kitchin.-Beast.

Comdia



Epigrams.

31

Vindicta vim sequitur.

KIt being kickt and spurn'd pursues the Law.
That doom'd the damage at twiee forty-pence,
Which vwhen the partie that had vvrong'd him savy
Thought t'was too great a fine for such offence,
Why then (quoth *Kit*) if I too much request,
Thou maist at any time kick out the rest.

32

Sic Jupiter clim.

VVhen *Silvio* seekes a broad for *Venerie*,
Hesutes him ever in some strange disguise,
And like the *Lapwing* farthest off doth flye,
That none his dwelling know in any wise :
Hath he not reason to be close and fearing,
That iustice giues for others good abearing ?

Opin



Epigrams.

33

Opinio maior veritate.

VV Hat tell you *Grosius* now of Grammer rules,
That hath a Chequer-clarkē so long beene
As good you question him of *Mares*, or *Males*, (bred,
As poze him in a thing he neuer read:
And yet your clyents stoope with cap and knee,
To some (God wot) as scuruey Clarkes as he.

34

Turpe lucrum Veneris,

VV *Ill* in a wilfull humour needes would wed
A wench of wonder : but without a Stocke,
Whose fame no sooner through the street was spred,
But thither straight our chieffest Gallants flocke:
Put case she's poore : brings she not chapmen on?
I hope his Stock may serue to graft vpon.

C

Frontis



Epigrams.

35

Frontis nulla fides.

Cantus, that woolward went, was wondred at,
Which he excus'd as done through meere contri-
But who so simple (*Cantus*) credits that? (tion
Tis too well knowne thou art of worse condition:
And therefore if no linnen thee begirt,
The naked truth will proue thou hast no shirt.

36

Lucri bonus odor.

Faber, not fond or iealous of his wife,
(Though nere so faire) from no mans sight restraint
For well he knowes t'would proue a hellish life, (her
Besides the want of that which oft it gaines her:
Taking no knowledge then they come for sinne,
Sayes, *Please ye enter Sirs? my Wif's within.*

Magni



Epigrams.

37

Magnis fors ausibis obstat.

Mounseir le Graund, is hence from London gon,
On vrgent businesse that concernes him neere,
And more disturbs him but to thinke vpon,
Then any suddaine chance that came this yeere :
Which might haue wrought his vtter dissolution,
Had he not scap'd that scuruy *Execution.*

38

Curiorum Bacchanalia.

DAULINUS poasteth euery day to Powles,
But not to pray : that holds he out of fashion,
(he com whence returning , to some Tauerne troules,
Where of his sinnes he makes more due relation :
And calling most to minde the Scriuners band,
Hethen bethinkes him Domes-day is at hand.

C2

Volnisse



Epigrams.

39

Volnusse satis, si non datur ultra.

BEhold yon Greene goose in his hauking suite,
That's booted still a month before he tides,
To vrge the reason were but vaine dispute,
Ther's no man liuing knowes all times and tides :
What can he more then pawne his scarfe and swor
And yet the *Ostler* will not take his word,

40

Quod amamus landamus.

Marcus maintaines it boldly with his pen,
And will approue it by Philosophy,
That greatest Clarkes are not the wifest men,
(And therein shewes you many reasons why :)
Amongst the rest not least considerate,
Brings his defence from *Tombe Coryate*.

SH



Epigrams.

41

Suum cuiq; pulchrum.

e, *Osthumus* not the last of many more,
Askes why I writ in such an idle vaine,
Seeing there are of *Epigrams* such store,
Oh, give me leauue to tell thee once againe,
That *Epigrams*, are fitted to the season
Of such as best know how to make rime reason.

42

Fama Alendax.

Eport thou sometimes art ambitious,
At other times too sparing couetous,
But many times exceeding envious,
And out of time most diuellish furious :
Of some or all of these I dare compound thee,
But for a lyar haue I euer found thee.

Si

C3

Quid



Epigrams.

43

Quid non ebrietas.

Rubin reports his Mistrisse is a Punck,
Which being told her, was no whit dismayed,
For sure as death (quoth she) the villain's drunck,
And in that taking knowes not what he saids:

T'was well excus'd: but oft it comes to passe,
That true we finde *In Vino veritas.*

44

Ex Nihilo nihil.

T'Wer wondrous, *Niger* should so long neglect
To take a Wife, either for wealth or vice,
But that t' was knowne he had some close defect,
Which from his very rising hindred it:
For what to women most content should bring,
Was flatly found in him to proue no Thing.

Noſſ



Epigrams.

45

Nescit modum rationis expers.

VHen late Bartellus wife began to breed,
She long'd for Crabs, and Dagger-Pudding-
Next time on pickeld Oysters must she feed, (pyes;
All which, and more, her carefull husbands buyes,
So oft she longs for sundry dainty things,
As all is spent er' she her bastard Brings.

46

Non penna, sed usus.

Cains accompts himselfe accurst of men,
Only because his Lady loues him not :
Who (till he taught her) scarce could hold her pen,
And yet hath since another Tutor got.
Cains it seemes thy skill she did but cheapen,
And meanes to try him at another weapon.

C 4

Pari



Epigrams.

47

Pari iugo dulcis tradus.

VVI L and his wife so well loue one another,
As oft their strife is which would first be dead
Meane while (the better to partake with other)
Lye closely kissing all day long a bed:
For so their fancies both iumpe on the nick,
He calls her *Cunny*, she him *little Prick*.

48

Manus manum fricat.

CÆus indebted, wants wherewith to pay,
Vn to mine Host; but doth therewith appeale
To his kinde Hostise, cravueng longer day:
That with her euer yet did kindly deale,
For let her speake (quod *Cæus*) iust and truely,
She cannot say, but I haue payd her duely.

*O*p



Epigrams.

49

Opus & Vsus.

O *Pus* for need consum'd his wealth apace,
And ne'er would cease vntill he was vndone;
His brother *Vsus* liu'd in better case
Then *Opus* did, although the eldest sonne:
Twas strange it shoulde be so; but here was it,
Opus had all the Land, *Vsus* the Wit,

50

Posse non velle, virum nobilitat.

Festus could finde in's heart to eat good cheere,
To weare rich garments, and conuerse with Earles,
To reuell it with the best, and domineere
Amongst the choisest and most sweetest Girles.
But this (quoth Festus) feeles to him a curse,
To finde in's heart, and cannot finde in's purse.

Vulgaria



Epigrams.

51

Vulgaria sperno.

Some maruaile why these Epigrams I write,
To one proportion, limit me confines;
As if I could no more nor lesse indite,
But iust the measure of so many lines:

To answere such as therein thinke I err,
Spite of their spleene I will be singuler.

52

Dulce lenimen, misericiarum?

Rauncus restraint of libertie, lies by it,
But therewith is resolu'd to take no care:
For Rauncus reckons not who ere espie it,
So long as there are yet some chincks to share,
Let Fortune doe the worst that she can doe him,
If but his 'Doll, that dainty Duck come to him.



Epigrams.

53

O tempora, O mores.

S *Am' sayes this new world differs from the old,*
Who knowes not that? there's no man can deny it:
Victuals were nere so deare, nor loue so cold,
The matter is, we want wherewith to buy it.

But (*Sam*) thou never yet couldst heare or see,
That beggers were more proud then now they be.

54

Regina pecunia quid non?

N *Ummus subborn'd a Counsellor on his part,*
Gainst Innocence that knew not what to speake;
But free in Conscience had a cheerefull hart :
And yet constrain'd, his minde at length did breake
Vnto him, saying, *Sir, you play the Poet,*
That know the truth, yet will not seeme to know it.

Ceninnes



Epigrams.

55

Venient spectentur ut ipsi.

VV Hen yong Roger goes to see a play,
His pleasure is you place him on the Stage,
The better to demonstrate his aray,
And how he sits attended by his Page,
That onely serues to fill those pipes with smoke,
For which he pawned hath his riding Cloke.

56

Sic ars diluditur arte.

ASaricant that a Seruingman arrested,
Bad him bring Bayle, or else to prison goe,
Which, to procure on's word, the man requested,
And lefft his Ring as in *deposito*:
The Saricant hauing staid till Sun had set,
Was forst (as Fortune would) to pay the debt.

Naturam



Epigrams.

57

Naturam Duceat sequimur.

MEstus growne dull and dead through discontent:
But if his *T'rull*, that sees him fotted, say,
How cheere you Syr? or is impatient
Of her dispatch, and sweares she will not stay,
Oh, then hee'l rouze himselfe, and gins to fall
Vnto his busines, like a naturall.

58

Redicula admirationis facetum responsum.

Lanius that late a load of Calves did bring,
Upon his horse through Fleetstreet to his dore,
Was of a Student thought so strange a thing,
As if he nere had scene the like before:

When boldly *Lanius* (looking backe) replide,
Ther's many a Calfe (Syr) doth on horsebacke ride.

Conscius



Epigrams.

59

Conscius ipse sibi, &c.

Reader, perhaps thou think'st I aime at thee,
Yes, much: to meane a man I doe not know?
Besides I hope thou never iniur'dst me,
Then t'wer vnlikely (faith) it should be so:
But as by chance the blind-man takes the Hare,
So may I hit thee ere I am aware.

60

Male agens, odit lucem.

DOras disdaines those verses he compos'd,
Should to the presse or publike view be brought,
Least greater matter be thereby disclos'd,
Then ever yet before was done or thought:
Prouided alwaies you may see him drunck,
Spend, sport, or spue, with any Shoredich Punck.

Invisibilius



Epigrams.

61

Invisibilis forma.

Mistrisse Madrill weares euermore her maske,
Which makes the people very much admire;
But none so saucy dares the reason aske,
Or contradict it since tis her desire:
For painted pictures, must (you know the guise)
Be alwaies curtain'd from the vulger eycs.

62

Mali corni, malum ovis.

Quinto that peasant, with his meager face,
Whose tongue is like vnto an Adders stayle,
Must out of spleene these *Epigrams* disgrace,
And if you'd hang him cannot chuse but raile
His reason is that old distemperd rage,
Who writing nere but once was hift from Stage.

Epigrams



Epigrams.

63

Usuram damnat, vim patitur.

Cresus a Gallant, but of no great wit,
Inueighes aginst Vsury and interest ;
Maintayning simplic that it is vnfitt
Mens substance by such profit were increast :
But *Cresus*, talke no more, for I haue knowne,
When you your selfe haue put vp three for one.

64

Canis ad vomitum.

Dick that each night goes duely drunck to bed,
Forgets to pray vntill he risen is;
And hath next morning druncke againe, and fed,
Then sweares as fast at whatsoeres amisse,
So much hee's mou'd at wagging of a haire,
As Dick dares damne himselfe fore morning prai-

18



Epigrams.

65

Iulus Piscator sapit.

B
Rutus at length escap'd the Surgions hands,
Begins to frolick as if all were well ;
nd would not for the worth of thrice his lands,
ndur the brunt of such another hell ;
But leavues this farewell for his Phisicks hire,
The child that's burnt, for ever dreads the fire.

66

Contempta iacent artes.

ed, Young *Valentinus* writes as many hands
As any Clarke within the Towne he dwels ;
ne Latin, French, and Dutch he vnderstands,
multis alijs more then much excels :
There's no man knows how Fortune yet may lift him,
orai though at this time he wants a shirt to shift him.

D

Ye



Epigrams.

67

Cacu amor, caca libido.

Secretus in the night a drabbing goes,
That lurking liues by day-light like the Owle;
But then his lustfull lims vpon her throwes,
And nere lookes on her, be she faire or soule,
Or lewd; or loathisome, lam'd, diseas'd, or common:
It onely likes *Secretus* shee's a woman.

68

Quorsum purgatio hac?

Cornelius thinkes it best he take purgation,
As well to expell those honours that abound,
As to beguile some others expectation,
That for his pleasure pleaseth not be found:
I doubt Cornelius then will purge so long,
As hee's not keepe himselfe a penny strong.

Tun



Epigrams.

69

Tunica Pallio proprietor.

*I*burnus keepes a Tauerne neere the Fields,
Where *Bacchus* fild with Nectar nightly sports,
And *Venus* pleas'd, with sweet perswasion yeelds ;
Unseene of *Vulcan* when as *Mars* resorts,
But to iumpe plainly to the point indeed,
T'is thought his Wife best serues the turne at need.

70

Stuleorum Sapientia.

*C*orinus waxen poore devised best
What Art or skill might next aduantage bring,
So many proofes his cunning had profest,
As could be fram'd almost on any thing :
At length resolu'd, his Countrie he forsooke,
And of his trauailes wrote a fustian Booke.

D 2

Non



Epigrams.

71

Non Brachia sed Nasus.

Nick being druncke one night disgrac'd his nose
Against the poast, he groping could not feele;
Nor how he hurt himselfe doth yet suppose,
(But that his head was lighter then his heele:)
But Nick, if I might censure of thy harmes,
I thinketh thy nose was longer then thine armes.

72

Fatido sic fluisse, turgent superbia.

As young Renaldo stood diuising best
To please his Lady with some pretty tale,
(Whose settled countenance thereto addrest
And bashfull blushing did him then appale)
He therewith coughing, chanc'd to let a fart,
Which euer since hath dasht him out of hart.

N



Epigrams.

73

Nec casta, nec caute.

Vulcanus vowed to prosecute the law,
Gainst one that wronged his beloued Nell;
Whom for her part she never felt nor saw:
And how she lives that let her neighbours tell,
If she her carriage doe not closely beare,
Though he, her husband, once a Bankerout were.

74

Infamia, fama.

Sardinia swaggers, but with good report.
Though she preserue a morsell for her friend,
The course she takes is of another sort;
Then doth to Groomes or Wastcoat wenches tend:
For (but her selfe excepted) she'l be sworne,
The worst are Knights on Gentlewomen borne.

D 3

Nescis



Epigrams.

75.

Nescis quò serua vesper vebat.

Lincus deuileth as he lyes in's bed,
What new apparell he were best to make him;
So many fashions flow within his head,
As much he feares the Tailor will mistake him:
But he mistooke him not that by the way
Did for his olde Suite lay him vp that day.

76

Est mihi diuina parens, &c.

Owinus wondreth since he came from Wales,
What the description of this Ile should be,
That nere had seene but Mountaines,Hils, and Dales
Yet would he boast, and stand on's Pedegree,
From *Rice ap Richard*, sprung from *Dick a Con*
Be God was right gud Gentleman :lookeye now



Epigrams.

77

Nalli Thai negat.

Ucina likes not to be ouer coy
Amongst those friends that come in loue to greet
For mirth and Musick euer was her ioy, (her
And therein failes she none that dares but meet her :
So firme her fancies doe on pleasures fixe,
As she is wholy made of *Merry-tricks*.

78

Matrimonium meritrici Pallium.

Arcella doth her daughter oft aduise,
She take example by her sisters fall,
Leaft worser danger shoud to her arise,
And may her credit in like question call,
Till she in marriage so her selfe aduance,
As may support it whatsocuer might chance.

D 4

Simul.



Epigrams.

Simul & semel.

79

CAntus both wood and wedded in one day,
(Nor was it wondrous, as the case required)
For she with childe, no reason had to stay,
And he contented, lik't what loue desired:

Vntill he saw how soone her wombe did rise,
Which she excus'd, was now the common guise.

Bacchus triumphans:

80

COcus that quondam kept both horse and man,
And could haue tane what not? vpon his word:
Now walkes the Suburbs without Cloake or Wan,
And fares as Fortune pleaseth to afford;

More shame then pittie tis, a man would think
So great a portion could be spent in drinke?

Sequitur



Epigrams.

81

Sequitur vestigia Matri.

Eldis too frankly brings his Wife abroad,
Amongst our Roysters of the deepest ranck,
As who should say she that awry hath troad,
Will play the same, but not a worser pranck,
Vnlesse she iumpe so iust her Mothers mould,
As like to her shew'l proue as often sould.

82

Monstrum intus & extra.

Monsieur *Mendoza* weares a nose notorious,
Not like the luster of each Malmsey nose ;
But such whose splendor is more glorious,
Then richest Rubies, or the reddest Rose,
Briefly the tenor , if I must di sclose,
Mendoza hath indeed a monstrous nose.

Par



Epigrams.

83

Par pari, referri decet.

Old Menedemus that would neuer wed,
But made his wenches serue in stead of men,
Is now at length of such a morsell sped
As quits his quondams with a Carde of ten ;
For all those mungers did her most maintaine,
She now payes home with twice as much againe.

84

Quid cogit necessitas?

VV Hen Luscus late beheld a proper Lasse,
And of her dainties had desire to taste,
Not knowing how to bring his sute to passe,
He vow'd to speede or hang himselfe in haste;
She fearing Luscus would haue don't indeed,
Yeelds more to saue his necke then serue his need.

Ingeniu



Epigrams.

85

Ingentes, collunt amnos.

Quintus by nature was so hot and fierie,
As on the least occasion straight would draw,
And run himselfe into a *Premuniri*,
With resolution, in dispight of law,
Vntill the Gaile for twelue moneth taught him diet,
Where (purg'd of choller) *Quintus* now liues quiet.

86

Partarunt montes, &c.

Peirus will bring forth Epigrams heereafter,
But I deliuered am : my paines are past.
Then must his Muse be but my Muses daughter,
Because (you see) mine giues the name of last :
But *Petrus* meanes t' imlarge his Booke with blancks,
Fearing more labor , and more lines, then thanckes.

Furoris



Epigrams.

87

Furoris precipitum.

Iosephus hath his learning quite forgot,
Yet, hence these *Epigrams* he headlong flings,
That by no meanes his fancy feedeth not,
They are such brutish beastly baudy things,
Was't not well aimd at, on so short a sight?
Few of your fooles doe alwaies iump so right.

88

Superbiae comes, inopia.

Susan that whilome wore her gownes of sattin,
And far'd deliciously from day to day,
(Translated into French from out of Latin,)
Is fald at length into that foule decay
As all the meanes and many she can win,
Will scarce procure the Spittle take her in.

Tempus



Epigrams.

89

Tempus edax rerum.

VHen Mistris *Win* did first her wastcoat weare,
She scarcely could that cariage then main-
But now on float her selfe a loft doth beare, (taine,
With flaggs and top-sailes launching forth amaine:
Whose force in hottest fight exceeds so farre,
As dares encounter any man of Warre.

90

Asperum nimis condimentum.

MOunseir *Albanus* new inuested is
With sundry suites and fashions passing fit,
But neuer any came so neare as this,
Or ioy whereof *Albanus* frolickes it,
Vntill the Tailors bill of *Solus fias*,
Diverts his humour cleane to another byas.

Tobacco,



Epigrams.

91

Tobacco, vinum, Venus.

Focus growne fat, liues like an Epicure,
And studies daily how he shall be fed,
That can no more your walkes in Powles indure,
But takes *Tobacco* as he lies in's bed:
Where belching (like a Boare) he cals for Sack,
And only keepes a Whore to scratch his backe.

92

Mulus mulam frieat.

How comes it *Mildred* our next neighbours mai
That serues for wages scarce fourre markes a yeer
Should goe so rich and gorgiously arai'd,
As to no little wonder may appeare?
Oh, t'is her Maister deales so like a brother,
As one good turne deserues to quite another.



Epigrams.

93

Quis Ebrius landat temperantiam?

Euerus likes not these vnseasoned lines,
Of rude absurdities, times foule abuse
To all posterities, and their assignes,
That might haue beene (saith he) to better vse:
What sencelesse Gull, but reason may conuince,
Or Iade so dull but being kickt will wince?

94

Facies, non uxor amatvr.

Anius knowne a man of substance plenty,
And growne a Grandfire to no meane a stocke,
Hath wedded one suppos'd was vnder twentie,
Whom poorely he receiu'd but in her smocke: (him,
That since for recompence a sonne hath broughte
So old and able who would ere haue thought him?

Nobilitas



Epigrams.

95

Nobilitas ignota, ignobilis.

Bernardus boasts his Kin and Pedegree,
Are such as may compare with greatest Peeres,
Nor can your Coate by halfe so ancient be;
Before the Conquest knowne for many yeeres;
If that be ancient, which we doe not not know,
Then I conclude, his Gentry may be so.

96

Summis negatum stare diu.

Tharsus in Office beares himselfe as great,
As Juno's Bastard, who such labour won:
Or Ioue himselfe that late in Saturnes seate,
Or Phaeton that's said to rule the Sunne:
But so presumptuous he forgets his calling,
As with young Icarus I feare his falling.

No



Epigrams.

97

Non re, sed nomine Sponsus.

Vcina languishing through long dispaire,
That since her marriage-day ner' bred yong bones,
And yet a Woman lusty, young, and faire,))
is now deliuere of two Boyes at once : .
For which the Midwife prais'd her husbands skill,
Yes : true (quoth she) the man did his good will.

98

Vadas si inuidias.

M omus, thy malice I haue lookt for long,
And made prouision fit to entertaine thee ;
ut if thou guerdon my good will with wrong
hy comming He preuent, and much disdaine thee.
My boord for bitter foes no meat affords,
Thou therefore shalt beforst to eat thy words.

E

Quam



Epigrams.

99

Quam fallimur in certis?

Iocus in's humour weareth out the day,
Counting it sinnen to take thought for to morrow,
And makes a iest when he shoulde come to pay;
But pleads good earnest when he meanes to borrow.
Yet see how *Iocus* iests at length deceaues him,
That in the hole of *Woodstreet-Counter* leaues him.

100

Inequales trahunt Insuence.

Curta ne're mourn'd her husband being dead,
Because she was too young, and wanted wit;
But *Curta* since (the second time) hath sped,
With one as much too olde, and more vnfit
Which (if you marke it) makes the prouerbefu
Sbe that bath borne a Calfe, now beares a Bull.

Amb



Epigrams.

101

Ambitio feminini generis.

Mistres Matressa hopes to be a Lady,
(Not as a dignitie of late expected)
But from the time almost she was a Baby,
That hath your richest Gentlemen rejected,
But yet not dubd in present, as she should be,
Proves in expectance still, *my Lady would be.*

102

Amor non est acceptor personarum.

Iulia hath sworne to loue her Seruingman,
On whom she dares before her husband smile;
And enterchange those greetings now and than
As may the times and his mistrust beguile,
For Iulia thinketh it in conscience meet, (sweet.
Who tastes the sowre, should sometimes feele the

E 2

Vnus



Epigrams.

103

Unus Diabolus dominatur in tribus.

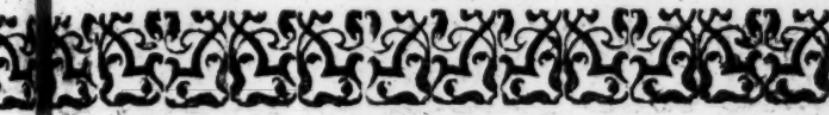
A Scriuener and a Vsurer contends
Against a Sarieant, which performeth most:
Th' one sayes, he bindes; th' other his money lends
Then what (quoth they) remaines that thou shouldest?
Yes (saith the Sarieant) if you note it well,
I can conduct men living into Hell. (boa)

104

Sublata causa tollitur effectus.

Mounseur Piero hath his wedlocke lost,
That gainst his credit proues a strong inuicti
Some censure this, and that; but by the most
It's found apparant that he was defectiue:
And therefore must he in a case so slender
Be forc't perforce his right and clayme surrende

Agm



Epigrams.

105

Aquila non caput muscas.

Grandus that great Colossus gins to learne him
The Rules that longeth to a cunning Clarke :
But saucy he's to thinke my lines concerne him,
Idi Drany drunkard stumbling in the darke.
No Grandus, know . I write of greater men,
Thou art too base a subiect for my Pen.

106

Praetar otiosum esse quam male agere.

Lucres liues lazely, and loues her ease,
Medling with nought that toyle or labour brings;
But to be idle lesse doth *Lucres* please
Then to be medling with the meanest things,
Which she accompts but as a veniall sinne,
Hauing (alas) no other commings in.

E 3

2 NOV



Epigrams.

107

Quot capita, tot sensus.

Some much commends your Humours ordinary,
Others doe more affect the lonely Greeke ;
But most extols our English Secretary,
No one can please all : all loue not alike.
Give me that fellowes wit, whose follies *Rime*,
Was bare-arsl pictur'd on the backe of *Time*.

108

Nititur in vetustum.

A Ske *Minos* why he marries not, hee'l say
Because he will not live at Rack and Manger,
Whiles he may take a snatch, and so away
In common corners, as a common Ranger;
Twere no great matter if a man should name him,
Pish, bring him on the Stage you cannot shame him.

Unusquisque



Epigrams.

109

Vnusquisque suo sensu.

AS are my Epigrams no way precise,
Or curiously compact, but plaine indeed;
So wish I not the Reader, ouerwise,
To wrest or censure where there is no need,
But if thou wilfull wilt apply them to thee,
All that I say, is, *much good may they doe thee.*

110

Aliud similit, aliud agit.

PROface (quoth Fulvio) fil's the tother quart,
Nay, since w'are met, let vs not budge till tenne:
What's he that will not pledge me with a heart?
All this to any one dares say Amen,
But calling for a Iourden, steales away,
And leaues the reckoning for the rest to pay.

E 4

Serio,



Epigrams.

III

Serio, si Sero.

NO more carowling Tomkin, if you loue me;
When was there scene a ciuill woman drunke?
In any thing but this command or proue me:
Nay, then you'd vse me as a common Puncke.
Faith Syr, I scorn't: nor care I for your Wine,
Give me your money ere you haue what's mine.

III

Ede, bibe, lude.

Come on, sayes Mounseur *Rake-bill*, what shal's
Shal's kill a Saricant, or go rob for treasure? (do)
What hath thy stomacke most a minde vnto?
We ne're shall yonger purchase greater pleasure:
Liue still, and lacke? s'fut, something wee'l intend,
They can but hang vs for't and ther's an end.

Moritour



Epigrams.

113

Moritur cum tempora mutant.

Superbus lookes no lower then the skie,
Yet is vnskilfull in Astronomie:
Tis like he knowes for certaine he must die,
But would not see the place where he should lie:

Take heed *Superbus*, may a number cry,
Thou be not damn'd for pride and villanie.

114

Nocturna lucubrationes periculose.

Flora gaines more by labor in the night,
Then can her husband purchase any way:
What would she not procure her if she might
Be so employd' with busynesse all the day?
That might be censur'd soone by him, or those
Who best the burthens of her labour knowes.

Sequentur



Epigrams.

115

Sequentur tandem deteriora.

HAng't, a poxe on't (quoth *Vincenſ*) let it goe,
Tis not the moſt that I haue loſt before,
He was a Raſcall to abuse me ſo:
Spent I as muſh as he is worth and more
Twill not vndoe me: but (braue *Vince*) it will,
If you continue in this humoure ſtill.

116

Quod roget Naturafiat.

MAtilda growne to age, full fourteene yeareſ,
Betrothſ her ſelfe againſt her Fathers will,
And leiffe the threatniges of her mother feareſ
To ioyne in wedlock, proue it good or ill:
Which to vndoe ſhe ſcorneth with her heeles,
So much ſhe now the pricke of conſcience feeleſ.

S



Epigrams.

117

Sic ars diluditur absens.

When *Ralph* returnes each euening from a play,
He tells his wife he was at shop that while,
Which simply she beleues and goes her way,
Then laughes to see he could her so beguile
And come vpon her : but if all be true,
Ther's many (*Ralph*) playes on her more then you.

118

Quisq; sua vindicat.

MY Epigrams: how euer poortely borne,
And at an instant huddled vp in hast,
Doe boldly yet the name of Bastard scorne,
That sauour not of stolne or borrowed taste :
Many haue father'd what they haue not knowyne,
My comfort onely is, *What's mine's mine owne.*

Qua



Epigrams.

119

Quae sola, magis errat.

YOUNG MISTRIS Rose to Pymlico is gone,
(A place I hope no City creature blames,) But it's suspicioſe that ſhe walkes alone,
And not in troopes amongſt our London Dames :
Because the wicked teameſe it as a Burleſe,
To meete and talke, but afterwards doe worse.

120

Facile obliniſcuntur maximi.

Gallant fall's in rage this other day,
Missing a ſuite he thought was ſtolne, or ſould,
But preſently remembred where it lay,
For by his Page t'was peremptory told,
He knew before (which need no ſuch vexation)
That that and more was pawnd the laſt vacation.

Audentes



Epigrams.

121

Audentes fortuna innat.

ASouldier once a Widdow would haue woo'd,
But being poore and loath to be deni'd,
Durst not impart how he affected stood,
Which she as soone thus censur'd as espi'd:
You may be valiant (Sir) but seeme unlusty,
That either haue no weapon, or i'tis rusty.

122

Exclamat Sydera sero.

YOUNG Maister Pignus sweares he lesse indures
To deale with Brokers then so many Diuels,
Which next to Baudes, and Panders him allures,
Are even as bad or rather worser evils:
That more inflict (saith he) then sword, or dearth,
And therefore calls them very Diuels on earth.

Forma



Epigrams.

123

Forma, bonum fragile.

Rugosa waxen old hath broke her glasse,
And liues in hatred with her owne complection,
Remembering but the forme it whilelome was,
Which when she lookt on gaue that sweet reflection:
But now desparyng, thinkes no christall ston
Can shew good count'rance that receiueth none.

124

Conscia mens queritur.

IYanders wife nere ioy'd her harts content,
Since now this second time she prou'd with childe,
For well she knew the labour ill was spent,
That had her Husband secretly beguild:
But most to thinke (which is the worst shee feares)
The worlds susppcion when it comes to yeeres.

Amic



Epigrams.

125

Amica omnibus, inimica nulli.

NEd with his first espoused never thriu'd,
The reason was her vnalluring feature,
But now at length with such a wench hath wiu'd,
As is compos'd another kinde of Creature:
Who faster then a man bespeakes her wares,
Deales all she can to free her Husbands eares.

126

Fatinecessitas.

(might,

VV Hen *Taurus* plagues the people through his
Heel still alledge the law shal beare him out;
Though conscience knowes t'is neither iust nor right,
Yet threatens by law to bring the same about:
But *Taurus* for a Cuckold's pointed at,
I wonder *Taurus* hath no law for that?

In



Epigrams.

127

In canda non in capite.

Silla in rage hath sworne to leaue the law,
That will not halfe suffice to beare his charge,
Such takings in a Tearme he neuer saw,
And little reason hath to spend at large,
Were not his wife of Clients better sped,
Silla had long ere this beeue dead, or fled.

128

Cynicus.

Nature hath fram'd Fastidius like a Dogge,
Of that vnhumane shape, so true a Dogge
As he's reputed for a very Dogge,
Or rather one more biting then a Dogge:
Who since by due he is so deem'd a Dogge,
It must ensue that he will dye a Dogge.

Alligatio



Epigrams.

129

Aliquid bonum propter vicinum bonum.

V Hen Berus with his betters sits at Board,
He vomits straight his humours bitterness,
And will exceptions take at every word :
Although it poysen proue to more or lesse,
Who patient must perforce therewith partake,
Not for his owne, but for his Phillis sakes.

130

Tam notus ut natus.

T O M takes it as a pride that I should name him
Within the Circuit of my Bookes precinct,
And intercepts me, with, *I can not shame him,* and so
As if he knew my meaning by instinct :
For thus, hopes he, the more a man rayles on him,
The more he will in time bestow ypon him.

F

Theatrum

Opigrams.

131

Theatrum licentia.

Coys beconica Player, most men know,
And will no longer take such toyling paines ;
For heer's the spring (saith he) whence pleasures flow
And brings them damnable excessive gaines, (sprig
That now are Cedars growne from shrubs and
Since Greenes Th' quoq; and thosc Garlicke ligas.

132

Sola mea mecum porto.

Some, that my lines haue madded, make report,
What er I write is all by imitation ;
Others, of whose abuses I make sport,
Say, that I want more matters variation,
Or that from borrowed-wit I seeke my fame,
Let them haue patience, I'le pay each his shame.

Eqnita



Epigrams.

133

Equitare in arundine longa.

Ioane loueth not this iesting with edge-tooles,
That oft were wont to hurt her vnawares,
And therefore meanes to deale with none but fooles
(If rich inough) how blunt, she never cares;
Though well 'tis knowne her iesting's too too euill,
For shee is able conny-catch the Deuill.

134

Maximus Ignotis.

Gorgonius brags what wonders he hath wrought,
Tickling himselfe with selfe-conceit vaine-glory,
As in what fray or skirmish he hath fought:
To strangers whom hee meets hee'l preach a story,
But what thou art Gorgonius well I wot,
'Tis best thou tell it them that know thee not.

F 2

Audi



Epigrams.

135

Audi, cerne, tace.

Fortune (it seemes) respects not honesty,
Nor envies any man that doth her scorne ;
For *Tassus* seem'd her honest friend to be,
And yet his Fortune isto weare the Horne,
Which kindly he puts vp and will not blow it,
Because his foes, to spite him, shall not know it.

136

Contra vim durare noluit.

Parnella pines away with discontent,
And of mis-fortunes deeply doth deplore her,
Deeming the powers no way indifferent,
Her younger sister should be match before her :
And herein will the case no longer smother,
For since shee is no wife shewl proue a mother.

Pecc



Epigrams.

137

Peccatum vetus, penitentia nona.

MAgus, with's wit, at length was ouer-reacht,
Who hauing won a Widdowes chalstie,
And more her credit then his owne impeacht,
Got her with childe through importunitie,
But since supposing all things done and ceast,
Is forst to pay an hundred pounds at leaft.

138

O stulte hac nocte, &c.

AVarus wifht his Coyne and countles store,
Might in a moment yeeld him so much more ;
Who saw behind him in a looking glasse,
His worthleſſe wifht at length was come to passe :
But then came Death that did the Miser smother,
And gaue him equall ioy of th'one as th'other.

F 3

Satyrus



Epigrams.

139

Sinuus varietatis audius.

Zoilus expects my verses more should vary,
To please the Readers care with chiose digression
Tut Zoilus, know, I am not mercenary,
Besides, it is no badge of my profession:
Yet few haue writ more *Epigrams* then I.
Who sayes the contrary, *I say, they lye.*

140

Tandem sese surgit in altum.

Dick swore he doubted not to mount ere long,
And be no more the man he whillome was,
For he would liue or lie in prison strong,
Which to make good he quickly brought to passe,
That hauing rob the vestry at *Al-hallowes*,
Was forc'd within a fortnight mount the gallows.

N

XIIM



Epigrams.

141

Non intus sed extra.

A Citizen (whose wife would sometimes sport)
Spying her tricks, first grieu'd, and then fell sicke,
To whom his friends would oftentimes resort,
And aske him where his paine did ake or pricke;
No where (quoth he) yet well I shall be never,
The paine I feele, is long of my bad-wer.

142

Ut populus Nanus.

N *Anus*, though dwarfish, hath a diuellish wit,
Whose tonges the harbenger that gets him dier,
And therewith striues all companies to fit,
Though what he wants, hee'l boast his gold shall buy it:
Aske how he lives, hee'l tell you straight (with oathes)
By trickes, Tobacco, strumpets, and good cloathes.

F 4

A



Epigrams.

143

A malo ad peius.

Mirth's swearing makes absurdities
Amongst the vulgar, seeme as verities;
For that (thinks he) a man esteemes his oath,
Whom otherwise to credit would be loath :

But now luch is his chance whereat hee's grieu'd,
The more he fweares, the less he is belieu'd.

144

Qua vetera non curamus.

MY Epigrams escap'd the Printers hand,
Eyther on Stationers stal's regardles lyce,
Or must on Posts, for penance, nayled stand,
That every one may gaze on, passing b'v;

Which to prevent, and therewith purchas'd
Tom Coriat soldc the Bookes he made himselfe.

Non

XUM



Epigrams.

145

Non bonos, sed onus.

A Knight that bought his Order, straight grew ill,
Ac complaining much that he had caught mischance
Phisitions could not cure him with their skill,
Nor he himselfe with all his strength aduance:
He straide his backe so stooping to the ground,
As he neare since could lift vp twenty pound.

146

Dignum, quod merito.

M ammon the Vsurer hath such a wife,
As layes it on, thought he himselfe doth statues;
And is resolu'd to liue a Ladies life,
The whilst his pelfe may her in pompe preserue:
Mammon, this curse pursues thy wealths abuse,
She spends for pleasure what thou gots by vse.

- *Patrius*



Epigrams.

147.

Patrie agrotans.

Dego grew sicke because his Dad left giving,
And of consumption would haue dy'd our-right
Had not the Churle the sooner left his liuing ;
Whereby Mas Dega since was dub'd a Knight.
Unhappy sonne, to draw such vitall breath,
That Phoenix-like liu'it by thy fathers death ?

148

Facile parta, facilis tocarta.

Two Lawyers opposite in two mens cases,
Rayld at each other in most vchement sort ;
With many bitter termes and foule disgraces,
As those that hard them, blusht at such report :
Next night they meeting, laught at their past-iarre
And what they got, spent freely at the Barre.



Epigrams.

149

A malo ad peius.

A Country Farmer had a friend at Court,
That for his Coine procur'd him to be Knighted;
On whom his neighbours now giues worse report,
Saying, that since all house-keeping is slighted,
Therefore, in truth, they did him much vnright,
To spoile so good a Clowne for such a Knight.

150

Ut tempora, mores.

A Pander once appareld wondrous brave,
Was askt why Fortune fauor'd such a knaue;
Who said, by Fortunes-wheele he did not clime,
Our riches comes (quoth he) by this bald time,
Wherein we free our selues from paines and care,
Liuing, like Barbers, by mens losse of haire.

Non



Epigrams.

151

Non Verbera, sed verba.

Two Schollers late appointed for the field,
Must (which was weakest) to the other yeld ;
The quarrell first began about a word,
Which now should be decided by the sword :
But ere they drew, there fell that alteration,
As they grew friends againe with disputation.

152

Vera filia matris.

A Gentle Virgin sprung of gentle blood,
Much on her birth and reputation stood,
Who prou'd so gentle to Gentillitie,
As she was got with childe apparantly :
For if men gently would put kindnesse on her,
She never would vngently put it from her.

In



Epigrams.

153

In fundis Parsimonia.

Caius hath vow'd it for this yeere at least,
To sup no more in Tauernes at such charge,
But in his priuate Chamber meanes to feast,
And send for victuals by his men at large,
Tur, what should Caius in such cost excell,
When Egges, and Butter will suffice as well?

154

Suum cniq; pulchrum.

CVRNUS being askt why he such Roses wore,
Vpon his durty Calue-skin-cobbled shooes?
And euermore in summer Sockes forbore?
His answere was, *he could nor will, nor chose:*
But Carnus know such Roses are vnmeet,
To help the sauour of thy stincking feete.

Tandem



Epigrams.

155

Post dulcia finis amarus.

Ienkin a Welchman that had suites in law,
Iourneyng to London chanc'd to steele a Cow,
For which (poxe on her lucke, as neare man saw,)
Was burnt within the fist and know not how :
Being askt if well the lawes with him did stand,
Was haue her now (quoib Ienkin) in her hand.

156

Ignorare nulla Cupido.

Florella, fal'n a yeare before her time,
(To salue the forfeit of her Maydenhead
That must no longer for promotion clime)
Prostrates her selfe vnto a Vintners bed,
Where Gallants knock each midnight at her dore
To taste the Iuyce that had no Bush before.

Nem

XUM



Epigrams.

157

Nemo nascitur Aristox.

If these (quoth *Potius*) proue not things admir'd,
When poore Mechanick toyling Water-men,
Shall with *Apolloes* Muse be straight inspir'd,
To leaue their Sculls, and deale with Poets-pen:

Let *Hercules* be henceforth tearm'd a Dwarfe,
And Paules-Church-yard exchang'd for Puddle-
(Wharfe.)

158

Praus magis profuit.

Pignus the Scriuener by procurements gets
More in a monthe then keepes him all the yeere,
Knowing those Mountibankes that mony lets,
On forfeit-pledges (proue they neare so deare:)

Let Baudes (quoth *Pignus*) beg, and Brokers fall,
It's too well knowne, he gaines the Diuell and all.

Mala



Epigrams.

159

Mala crescunt deteriora.

Philo takes Phisicke euery spring and fall,
Presuming thereby to prolong his life,,
But neuer notes the danger therewithall
That comes by nigling with his neighbours wife,
Poxe on't: but last yeere shauen to the chin,
Must now againe this tearme anew begin?

160

Tandem saturata Cupido.

Ieta that whilome Lady-like did let it,
Upon the wheele of Fortunes highest top:
And scorn'd to feare mischance (if Gold could let it)
Now prostrate keepes a poore Tobacco-shop,
Where wonted paines to win the golden fleece,
Of each, is purchast but at pence a piece.

Poff



Epigrams.

161

Fæmina ludificantur viros.

Kinde Karberen to her husband kist these words,
A' me owne sweet Will, how well doe I loue thee?
If true (quoth Will) the world no such affords,
(And that it's true I durst his warrant be:)
For nere heard I of Woman good or ill,
But alwayes loued best her owne sweet Will.

162

Timent, seipsum noscere.

Dacus doth daily to his Doctor go,
As doubting if he be in health or no;
For vwhen his friends salute him passing by,
And aske him how he doth, in courtesie,
He will not answere thereunto precise,
Till from his Doctor he hath tane aduise.

G

Cignus



Epigrams.

163

Cignus per plumas Anser.

P Ut off thy Buskins (*Sophocles the great,*)
And Morter tread with thy disdained shancks,
Thou think'st thy skill hath done a wondrousfeat,
For which the world should giue thee many thancks:
Alas, it seemes thy feathers are but loose,
Pluckt from a Swanne, and set vpon a Goose.

164

Fingit quod Fæmina veller.

C lara halfe angry with my Bawdy song,
Straight tolde her husband she had done with me
Fie *Clara*, I should suffer much more wrong,
Ere I would tell what I haue done with thee;
But *Clara*, should I speake my conscience plaine,
I know thou wouldst it were to doe againe.



Epigrams.

165

Per linguam caudam.

Frisca saith faine she would be rid of me,
And in that scorne she takes a wondrous pride:
Frisca, hearke hither what Ile say to thee,
Thou art too rancke a Iade for me to ride :
And therefore prethee (*Frisca*) doe not railie,
For feare thy venom'd tongue disclose thy ()

166

Dupliciter beatus.

A Freeman once of *London* made a Knight,
Would in that Order still maintaine his Trade,
And trafficke as before, taking delight
To say, his wealth would grow when Titles fade.
Twas wisely thought vpon, so let it be,
Thy sonne shall braue it for himselfe and thee.

G 2

Sic



Epigrams.

167

Sic surdo canimus.

A Welshman vvas to an Italian tolde,
That could his language perfectly dispute,
Which he beleeu'd as Gospell vntrold,
And with Italian gins him straight salute,
Th'other, admiring as a man dismaid,
Answer'd in Welsh he knew not vvhat he sayd.

168

Conscia quæ nosa.

LExander cald *Carina Hackney-woman*,
True: borne at *Hackney*; that was no disgrace:
Oh yes, she doubts you deem'd her hackney-common
Alluding more her person then the place.
For why? her conscience tels her vntreiqued,
How like a Hackney she hath long bee[n] hyred.

Praef.



Epigrams.

169

Prestas latrare quam mordere.

Old Chub for cheapnes chose to liue in Commons,
But not to study more then Kitchins law;
As harkning when the Cooke a manger summons,
And that's Chubs chiefest care, to cramb his maw,
Oh no, I lye: he keepes in cleanly case,
The Pumpe, the Priuie, and the Rissing-place.

170

Dignior famnia marito.

Ains shifts not so oft his Seruingmen
As doth his wife exchange her Chamber-maids,
The one but notes him icalous now and then,
Th'other (should seeme) her secrets more vpbraids,
The poore effect whereof consists in this,
He but the shadow, she the substance is.

G 3

Sentences



Epigrams.

171

Senibus voluisse satis.

Old *Cæcüs* that a young wench sought to win,
Protested he would proue an honest man,
Sauing this one *proviso*, putteth in,
You may not barre his feelling now and than;
For though his stomach doth your flesh despise,
To sup the broth would *Cæcüs* yet suffice.

172

Quid non verba suadent?

Sextus halfe salu'd his credit with a iest,
That at a reckoning this deuise had got,
When he should come to draw amongst the rest
And saw each man had coyne; himselfe had not,
His empty pocket feeleſ, and gins to say,
By Iefu Syrs, here's not a Crosse to pay.

Nem



Epigrams.

173

Nemo nisi per ultimum norma.

Cacus constraind on suddaine to vntruste,
Turn'd vp his podex in the open street
But hid his face : and to them answerd thus
That passed by, and told him t'was vnmeet,
Ther's none (quoth *Accus*) by mine arse that knows
How beastly els soever they suppose me. (me,

174

Posteriora placant.

DRuso his *Darkis* had not kist all day
Which he intreated she would beare in minde,
That longing at her lips prouok't him stay :
(But therewith tolde her t'was the more behinde,
Till fit occasion might desire fulfill)
As much behinde (quoth *Darkis*) as you will.

G 4

Sat.



Epigrams.

175

Sat, satis esse diues.

Clim, since his fathers death, is cleane vnapt,
To follow now his former course began,
That better Sutes to be in Velvet wрапt,
And seemes to braue it out with any man;
Why may not *Clim* such garments boldly weare?
Being left more money then an Alle can beare.

176

Alliquid in nubibus.

SCorus gives reckonings most irregulate,
For Sallats, thus: for Fruit and sweet-meats, so much:
But that is comonly when Mistrelle Kate
Sups in the Flower-de-Luce with Syr Iohn owt-much:
Who, if his credit be no longer tooke,
Will mortgage him the Mannor of *Ge-looke*.

Nil



Epigrams.

177

Nil violentum perpetuum.

Hedra transform'd from being a Chambermaid,
Ruffled awhile with Robes of richest price,
Till of a Bastard she was lately layd,
And had foretold, her Lord did her intice,
But then she carelessly repuls'd, and gon,
Fell for the Scrusing-groomes to seize vpon.

178

Formidat Stolidus umbras.

YOUNG Tregoose would by no meanes seale that Bill
Which worse (saith hee) then Drabs or Dice en-
Alledging this to be the onely ill; (thit all men,
Because it was written, *Be it knowne to all men,*
For wer't (quoth Tregoose) to my Vather knowne,
Hee'l thinke me sure some Bastard, not his owne.

Huic



Epigrams.

179

Huic fronti fides.

Creta scornes any but her owne complexion,
Wishing her spotles liues integrity,
Were but as free from faults and foule detection,
As is her face from filthy Mercury : ;
• T shall nere be said but Creta for her part,
Delt plainly vpwards without tricks or art.

180

Prosum modo, verbera verbis.

Muso would alwayes vse to beate his maides,
Mvnkleſſe t'were little Susan that came laſt,
Not caring which his ſeruice moſt vpbraids
With deeds of darkeneſſe that are done and paſt,
But here the queſtion is how Susan delt,
That ſhe with Childe his weight yet neuer felt.

S

XIIM



Epigrams.

181

Si hodie tibi, cras mihi.

A Scornefull Dame inuited ouer night,
To come and dine next morrow with a Knight,
Refus'd his sudden bidding with disdaine,
To whom this message was return'd againe,
Since with so short time she could not dispence,
To pray her come as that day twelue month hence.

182

Ut populus mundus.

P Lancus complaines the world's still worse & worse,
Whether he meanes the people or his purse,
Or both in one, or one in both combines
But thus I thinke, he rather it defines,
Like as with people there's leſſe conscience found
So yeelds his purse, of late, more lighter sound.

Occidit



Epigrams.

183

Occulta tandem produnt in lucem.

A Curios Page lay sleeping in the Porch,
That had beene watching th'other night before,
A seruingman in th'intrim stole his Torch,
Which after missing made him much deplore :
To whom quoth some that saw him in such plight,
Peace boy, thy Torch (no doubt) will come to lights.

184

Ad te (Scabiose Poeta.)

S Calpo hath got an itch in Poetry,
With which conceit doth oft his elbow scratch,
And sooner hopes to come in print hereby,
Then any young beginner of his match :
As cast-off Chamber-maides conuert to Drabbes,
So may thy itch in time breake out to scabes.

Ebrinus



Epigrams.

185

Ebrus p'us vissum trahit.

CEfus must sometimes sollace with his *Purck*,
Which he accounts more needfull then his
And holds it Phisick to be often drunck, (meat,
In both which mesteries hee's so compleat,
As seldome with the one hee'l dine or sup,
But will be sure to cast the other vp.

186

Magnus persona, parvus Crumenaria.

Grandus growes great, yet liues he poore with all
How meane youthen? hee's fat and well set forth?
True: but t'is strange his Incomes are so small,
A man of that huge shew and seeming worth,
How could his belly halfe so big haue beeene,
But that it showes he had great commings in?

Quos



Epigrams.

187

Quos amat, amplectiuntur.

Franciscus loues to feast men at his table,
Sparing for nought that mony can procure,
All which he thinkes too little and vnable,
Their least of loues or friendships to allure:
Yea Master *Francis*; vse you so to doe?
Prethee feast me and haue my friendship to.

188

Bis monitus, armatus.

Mistris *Mallina* vowes shee'l neuer mary,
Whiles some suruiue; that her amends should
Hath she not reason to be wise and wary, (make
That wouldesto great aduentures vndertake,
Thrice to be got with childe by younger Brothers,
That swore to wed her, and are matcht with others!

Clericu

XUM



Epigrams.

189

Clericus sine libro.

Promus the Puritaine though clownish,knowes,
A tricke of tenne which he from Clarkes hath
Who to the Tennant in possession goes, (found,
To prove him if for purchase hee'l compound:
And thus doth Promus like a Tumbler toyle,
Whiles greater Dogges expect to share the spoyle.

190

Incerta, somnia.

Draſter dreamt he was so fortifi'd,
In ſpite of Fates, with fauour and protection,
As through the Streets he did in triumph ride,
And proudly rule the roſt by his direction:
But waking ſince, with paſſions moſt extreme,
Hee's vext that all this while he did but dreame.

Ad



Epigrams.

192

Ad Thomans Coriat. Nuper admirabilem.

VV Onder of writers (for so once thou wert,) What pitty t'is thy fame no longer lasted,
That such of note in trauell and desert,
Like time-lesse Blosomes should so soone be blasted
For thus farre boldly may thy Booke compare,
How ill so euer sure t'was passing rare.

193

Ad eundem.

(mon)

VV Hat fame at first exceeding worths in com
Had thy late trauels and aduentures wrought
Wherein thou simply didst put downe that wyoman Can
Which to the Court a Denesfibre white-pot brought But
Hers for reward vvas quickly done and past,
Thine on Record will euer extant last.

John

XUM



Epigrams.

193

To John of Powies-Church-yard.

H Aile iocund John made all of louiance,
And midst the Garden of the Muses dwellest,
Thou best deserves my verse should thee aduance,
That with those curious complements excellest:
And Gallants gret' st with that abundant grace,
Vsh'ring thy flat-cap fore thy fleeting face.

194

To the quilty Coxcome.

C Ease gal'd-backe Gull to question what or whence,
Or who I am that did these lines compose,
Canst thou not priuately with shame dispence,
But needs must haue it publisch't to thy nose?
Will any foole suspect what no man thinks?
Knowst not a T. the more it's sturd it stincks?

H

Improb_e,



Epigrams.

195

Improbè qua parta, perireunt.

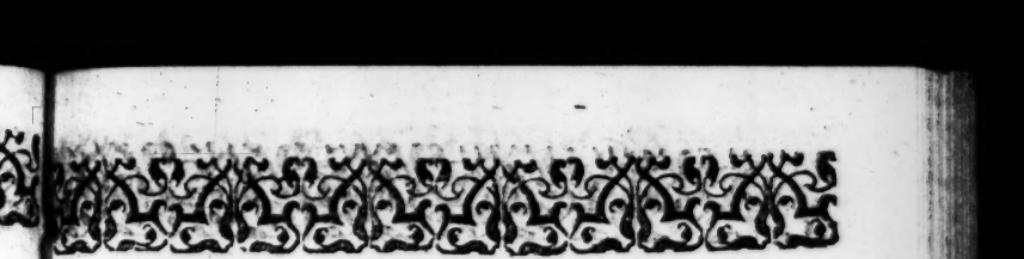
Gigas that iourneth daily to and fro,
Mongst Courts and Clarkes his causes to retain
Will no aduantage, time, or toyle, foreflow,
To bring him damn'd and detestable gaine:
Alt which and twice as much will not defray,
The charge that *Gigas* (with a pox) must pay.

196

Duplex pudor, Impudentia.

Scruto the Scriuener that had lost his eares,
Wherupon his locks he much more pendant weare
Hath late the like or worser Cousnage wrought,
And to the Pillory againe is brought, (swearde)
Wher now the Hangman (nought suspecting)
Why flase quoth *Scruto*, must I still finde eares?

Quo



Epigrams.

197

Quare alind diversorium.

Pontus in's iourney trauelling toward s Lyn,
Grew wondrous weary and of force would Inne,
Where he an Ostlet cals, who cryes, Anon ,
But staid so long that Pontus would be gon :
With that he heard within one laugh, and say,
Rethee make haste the Cockney will not stay.
But Pontus cryes againe, and would not passe,
Vntill mine Hoast himselfe put vp the Asse.

198

Si qua latent, peira puta.

Morus when first he married with a Whore,
Was truly tearm'd a cloake to sheld the raine,
But he his cloake since that time never wore,
Because the world should doc him right againe.

H 2

Sis



Epigrams.

199

Mens hominis nouitatis auida.

YOUNG *Prodigus* new fashions still invents,
And thought that ancient is will nought esteem,
What others fancies likes least him contents,
But all things needs will out of order deem:
Which is the vrgent cause I understand
Why *Prodigus* did sell his fathers Land.

200
Ne Sutor ultra, &c.

ACobler and a Curate once disputed,
Before a Judge about the Kings Injunctions;
Wherein the Curate being still confuted,
One said, t' were good if they two changed functions.
Nay (quoth the Judge) I thereto should be loth,
But and you will weele make them Coblers both.

May

XUM



Epigrams.

201

Magnis, minora grata.

Ewde *Latus*, came to me sixe Crownes to borow,
And swore (God damne him) he would payt to
knew his word as currant as his band, (morow,
and therefore gaue him but three Crownes in hand,
This, I to part with, he to take was willing,
And thus he gaignd, and I sau'd fifteene shilling.

202

Domina, non Sponsa perita.

Ou wisht me to a wife fayre, rich, and young,
That had the Latin, French and Spanish young;
With thankes I told you, I desir'd none such,
Byng, one language might be tongue too much,
But loue not I the learn'd? yes as my life,
A learned Mistresse, not a learned wife.

H 3

Amicus



Epigrams.

203

Amicus incertus in re certa.

Coquinus vow'd all kindnesse that he could,
I should command and finde him as I would,
No sooner thankt I him, but presently
He craud my help, which I could not deny :
But then he swore since I his friend so stood,
Sfoot he would dye the death to doe me good,
It chanst I claim'd his vow in time of neede,
But to performe it he proou'd dead in deede.

204

Artes landanar et algent.

Plancus the Poet liues but poore and bare,
Yet nere was knowne a man, of mickle spending
For Puddings still were wont to be his fare,
Tut, Bad beginnings may haue better endings.



Epigrams.

205

Sudor serui pascit dominum.

Argus hath Offices so great so many,
As he can scarce directly serue in any,
No matter *Largus*, thou look'st to the gaines,
And tak'st the profit who ere takes the paines:
Thy Clarkes sufficient are to doe thee gracie,
That on thy Gate this Emblem well may place,

A Penman prostrate at an Idiots foote,
(This being the motto) Sir, my man shall doo't.

206

Vulgariis ut nomen.

PArus whose purse at recknings nere appear'd,
Caries a conscience blacker then his beard,
Which to the world doth boldly testifie,
Is not so damn'd as yet he meanes to dye.

H 4

Signum;



Epigrams.

207

Signum ventris, Aperitus.

VV Hen trustie *Tom* his Maister durst reproue,
That once a wench besides his wife did loue
He angry seeming at his bold report,
Requires him shortly after in this sort :
Calling to minde how much beyond all meate,
His man would most these butterd Parsnips eate,
He caus'd his Cooke according to his wish,
To dresse that onely and no other dish ;
Which *Tom* (suspecting nought) deouores apace,
And neuer ceased to debate the case.
But fell vpon them like a hungry Boare,
That had not fed himselfe a day before,
But next meale, findes the like and falls aboard,
Eating what then his stomach could afford,

And

XUM



Epigrams.

And now presuming of some other change, (strange,
But finding Parsnips still; thought then t'was
Yet once againe (quoth *Tom*) I meane to eate them,
Next, to his Maister (sweares) he will repeate them:
But still that dish was drest accordingly,
Which when as *Tom* the fourth time did espie,
He to his Maister goes to know the meaning,
Of onely this, and other meates restrayning,
Sirra (gouth he) you askt me this last day,
Why I for change of pasture went astray:
Since Butterd Parsnips you so much desire,
Tis strange you then should other meates require,
Oh Sir, (quoth *Tom*) I now picke our the fense,
Your Parsnips teach me that experience.

Sic



Epigrams.

208

Sic Damson Damona fallit.

Zanibus arrested, did the Sarieant pray
He might not straight vnto the Counter goe;
But thence perswades him in some Tauerne stay
To send for Baile, and fees on him bestow:
Whereto the Sarieant freely condiscends,
And being come they call for Wine at large,
Which *Zanibus* seeing, doth invite his friends
That past along, to make the greater charge:
For nought he meant (nor could he ought defray,
Though seeming takes it to himselfe alone,)
But when the reckning came at length to pay,
Draw that haue coyne (quoth *Zanibus*) I haue none?

The



Epigrams.

The Vintner vexed, swore he should not part
From thence that night, till he were satisfide ;
Mary (quoth *Zantbus*) euen with all my hart,
I could desire I might with you abide.
The Sariant daunted in this case to see him,
Was *volens nolens* forc'd discharge the shot,
For being now growne late he thence must free him,
With coyne or credit where he woulde or not,
But well yong *Zantbus* knew they would not faile him,
That did next morning from the Cournger bayle him.

Ramus



Epigrams.

211

Rarus, qui publicus olim.

O F all the *Toms* that euer yet were nam'd,
Was neuer *Tom* like as *Tom Coriat* fram'd :
Tom Foole may goeto schoole, but nere he taught
Speake Greeke, with which our *Tom* is richly fraught:
Tom Asse may passe, but yet for all his eares
No such rich Iewels as our *Tom* he weares :
Tom tell-troth is but froth, and truth to tell,
Of all *Toms* our *Tom* beares away the Bell.

Similis



Epigrams.

212

Similis cum simili.

TOM went to th' Market where Tom met with Tom,
Tom asked Tom, What Tom: how far'st thou Tom?
Who Tom, I Tom ? yes Tom (quoth Tom,) you Tom:
Well God a-mercy Tom : how doe you Tom ?
¶ Fayth ne're so well (quoth Tom) since Tom was Tom,
And thus was the greeting past twixt Tom and Tom.

213

Foras parcus, domi prodigus.

VVHiles Caius doth remaine beyond the seas,
And followes there some great important
His lands bears neither Oats,nor Beans,nor Peaz,(lute
But yet his wife heares full and faire growne fruitz;
His Lands wants occupiers to manure them,
But she hath store enough, and can procure them.

Pastrema



Epigrams.

214

Postrema grauiora.

In cultus comes to Towne to learne new fashions,
And will no more these rusticke imitations,
But not resolu'd as yet what course to affect,
Intreats some stranger-friend would him direct,
Who first my Gull to Birch-in-lane doth cary,
To sute himselfe: from thence to th' Ordinary,
Where, after many a pledge with ful carouse,
He needes must visit next a Baudy-house,
But there *In cultus* gan anew to quaffe,
And cuer since was forc'd to leaue his staffe.

Timidus



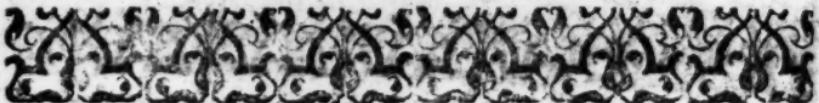
Epigrams.

215

Timidus glorioſus.

Forbeare t'attempt my patience if you loue me,
For I shall draw vpon my deereſt friends :
The leaſt occaſion on the earth will moue me,
And then t'will be too late to ſeeke amends.
Willyou be quiet whiles I warning giue ?
What? yet againe prouoke me to this geare ?
Strike but once more , as ſurely as I liue
Ile be thy Priēt thought'e cost me nere ſo deare ;
So, now remember you haue drawne my blood,
Helpe me, ſome honeſt man, or I ſhall ſowne,
Heigh ho , hee'l neuer doe me ſo much good :
Beare witneſſe Gentlemen, he ſtruck me downe,
Which to reuenge (oh that my blood would ceaſe)
True as I liue I'le binde him to the peace.

Fronti



Epigrams.

216

Fronti nulla fides.

VOtuſ hath vow'd to doe me many fauors,
And by no meanes I must him gratifie,
But all his oathes and protestations fauors
Of nought but periur'd vile hypocrisie:

Well, for this tricke ne're haue more to doe
With one so wicked and a Wit-all too.

217

Durando sordida surgunt.

VHEN Nut brownie Nancy newly made a Bride,
(That vs'd before to feede her father's swine)
Should more(sir reuerence lucke) be Ladified,
And all remembrance of what's past resigne:

Thereto preferd, alas poore pigges quoth she,
Now I am gone, who must your mistresse be?

A

XUM



Epigrams.

218

Cedant arma Nummis.

O H spare you Syr, you offer great disgrace
To wish me sell my Rapier ? fie, t'were base ;
A Marshall Gentleman of my profession
And should be prostitute to such condition ?
I le sooner part from forth the house I dwell
Then leauue my pleasure I esteeme so well :
My Rapier is my harts sole excellency,
My liues chiefe propagation and defence :
The blade Syr, Ile besworne is such a one
As farther came from hence then *Prestier-John*,
Yet if it needs will please you looke vpon it,
I would but borrow some small siluer on it.

I

Chriom



Epigrams.

219

Clericus sine libro.

VVVhen *Crassus* in his Office was instal'd
For sums of money, which he yet doth owe,
A Clyent by the name of Clarke him cal'd,
As he next day to *Westminster* did goe,
Which *Crassus* hearing, whispers thus in's eare,
Sirra, you now mistake, and much doe erre,
That henceforth must the name of Clark forbear,
And know, I am become an Officer,
Alas, quoth he, I did not so much marke,
Good Master Officer that are no Clarke.

Durham



Epigrams.

220

Durum scelum necessitas.

Cognum with hunger, pennyleiffe constrain'd,
To call for meate and Wine three shillings cost;
Had suddenly this project entertain'd,
In stcado of *What's to pay*, to call mine hoste;
Who, being come, intreaterth him discusse,
What price the law allots for shedding blood.
Whereto mine Hoste directly answeres thus,
T'was alwayes forty pence, hee understood,
So iben (quoth Cognum) to require your paines,
Pray breake my head, and give me whas remaines.

I 2



Epigrams.

221

A mala ad peius.

[N]elders time, as anciente custome was,
Men swore in weighty causes by the Massie ;
But when the Massie went downe (as others note)
Their oathes were by the crofse of this same groat :
But then the crofse was likewise held in scorne,
And by their fafh their common oath was sworne,
As hauing sworne away all Faith and troth
Iod damne me, now is vs'd their common oath.

And thus by custome kept from times gradation,
They loose Massie, Crofse, and Faith, to finde dam-
(nation.

Habet



Epigrams.

222

Haber & Rosa spinam.

A Cater that of late some Wild-soule bought,
A Incontinent vnto his Master brought;
Who smelling at them neere about the rump
Sayd out, thou knaue these sauor of the pump;
His man that was a rude and saucy louete
Zounds, answeres, Syr, swell you them thereabout?
Smell your fayre Lady there, and by your sauour,
You'l finde a foule if not a fulsome sauour.

I §

Ottavia



Epigrams.

223

Omnia probato, quod bonum est teneto.

MY Epigrams dispatcht, abroad I send them,
To good and bad, that but a looke will lend them,
If any proue so kinde that can befriend them,
When they shal heare or know t'was I that pend them,
Euen so: if otherwise, Ile not defend them, (them,
Much lesse (which were a shame) I should commend
Then Reader (if thou wilt) I prethee rend them.

U:

XUM



Epigrams.

224

Ut Casus Liber.

HEYWOOD affirmes, and prooues in some degrees,
That one may well compare a Booke to Cheeſe:
At every Market ſome buy Cheeſe to feede on,
At every Mart ſome men buy Bookes to read on,
All ſorts eat Cheeſe, but wherefore? there's the queſtion;
The poore for food, the rich for good diſgertion:
All ſorts read Bookes, but why? will you diſcerne,
The Foole to laugh, the wifer ſort to leарne:
The ſight and ſent of Cheeſe to ſome is hatefull,
The ſight and ſence of Bookes to ſome vngratefull:
No Cheeſe there is that euer pleas'd all feeders,
No Booke there is that euer pleas'd all Readers.

I 4

Liber



Epigrams.

Liber Secundus.

Dulce, quod visile.

N honest Vicar riding by the way
(Not knowing better how to spend the day;)
sing vnto himselfe *Genesia Psalms*.
A blindman hearing him straight beg'd his almes,
whom (quoth he) with coyne I cannot part,
God thee blesse (good man) with all my hart:
Oh, said the blind man, greater is our losse,
When such as you doe blesse without a croisse.

Sequitur



Epigrams.

3

Sequitur inuidia famam.

TWO Madams once were striving for the wall,
Both standing on their tearmes of worthinelle;
The one but young (howbeit rich withall)
The other ancient, though of substance lesse,
Said, soft and faire, till time hath rane fruition,
Your Ladyship is of the last edition.

4

Quo se vertat, nescit.

CUCULLUS hath disguis'd his former feature,
And like Pythagoras transformed shape,
Is now (me thinks) become another creature,
Halfe French, halfe English (pox on such an Ape)
That imitates all fashions farre and neere,
Though gainst the haire he buyes them ner'e so



Epigrams.

5

Credit colori.

Battus beleevued for a simple truth,
That yonder gilt-spurre spruce s^tnd velvet youth,
Was some great personage, or worthy wight,
Till one told him he was but a knight.
Aknight (quoth Battus) vaith I chud a zworne,
A hod not becene lasse then zome Gen-man borne.

6

Iocabunda, Indibunda.

Mistresse Finetta for her ready wit,
Is much admired, and belou'd of many :
But this one fault of hers confoundeth it,
The iesting will deride and scoffe at any :
Which by an ill accustom'd vse comes on her,
And yet ther's one that playes as much vpon her.

Sequitur



Epigrams.

7

Sequitur fortuna nefanda.

Craigus through craft redeem'd his credit crack'd,
That forc'd to leauc his bankerout occupation,
Clos'd with a widdow e're he was contract,
Whose riches once more rais'd his reputation.
That now mid'st fortunes floating to the brim,
Craigus keepes strumpets, whiles his wife keepeth him.

8

Non omnibus dormit.

SAy that **Carina** keepes a vitling house,
I hope 'tis for no vulgar men of meane resort,
That basely will a cast of Cannies carouse,
Or at some game at Cards but idly sport :
Tis knowne her weeekly risings and downe-falling,
Equals her state with some of higher callings.

Mulin



Epigrams.

9

Malum principia fraudis.

When Kate with Country Clyentes courted,
She seems more coy then any new beginnes,
Suing, as if she knew not how to kisse,
Ever saw the man that yet could win her:
But all to draw the Gulles more eager on,
That shares her gaines with Tinkers being gone.

10

Magnis non est morandum.

Echow *Silenus* walkes accomplished,
With due performance of his fathers Page,
akes backe of purpose to be honourde,
On each sleight occasien gins to rage,
You villaine, Dog, where hath your stay beeene such?
In woth he, the Broker would not lend so much.



Epigrams.

II

Fingit Adultera castam.

Nisa, who from her window glaunc'd her eyes,
Saw *Mopsus* come as fast as foote could traue
For ioy whereof, vpon her bed she lyes,
As who should thinke she slept and saw him not.
Twas very strange, vnlesse she ment herein,
Her eyes should not be open to her sinne.

12

Filius terra.

Lucas that hath beene long conceal'd of late,
Vpon the pennance of some purchast blame,
Lives now at Court in most heroicke state,
(But you must note tis by another name :)
Call him not *Lucas* now, least you disclose him
Nor askewhole sonne he is, for then you polo



Epigrams.

13

Turpe est cum fænore lucrum.

Anns hath liu'd this last vacation,
Upon his wiues bare charge without all reason,
Who since she knew at first her occupation,
Herc saw worse takings in a Lenton season.

A man would thinke thou shouldest her more be-
That did so many burdens vndergoc. (shrow,

14

Criminibus celare stndet sua criminis Macbus.

*VV*hen *Cacus* was accused of a Rape,
For stealing secretly to his maids bed,
He hardly could the doome of law escape,
Had he not thus the matter coloured :
That tooke his oath (nor did he sware amisse)
He went not into her bed, (for t'was his.)

323



Epigrams.

15

Non videmus mantica quod in tergo est.

Naso could wish the people would forbear,
To scandalize his more then honest Nan :
Who for this twelve month will expressly sweare
He hath not found her false with any man :
If otherwise she doe, he knowes not what,
Why should poore Naso be so pointed at ?

16

Luditur arte.

MArke but the semblance of *Fucaras* face,
How to the life her picture doth excell,
For louely feature, sweet and comely grace,
(Surely the Painter hath done wondrous well :)
But here's the doubt (both faces made by art)
Which you would choose to be the better part.

Spoliati



Epigrams.

17

Spoliatis arma supersunt.

Grand Captaine *Quid*, of coynie is quite bereft;
Whose *Page* was wont his purse & coyne to carry,
Now neither *Purse*, *Purse*, *Coyne*, nor ought is left,
Sauē what he's forc'd to pawne at th' ordinary.

Thus squint-ey'd Fortune partiall in her gifts,
Puts men of note oft-times to needy shifts.

18

Duo inquntur in unum.

VV Hy was yong *Lancelot*, *Lynsey-wolsey*Whose *Ancestors* werē of one Linage fram'd?
But that t'was knowne *Wailing* and *fridaystreet*,
In onic coniunction coplatiuē did meete.

K

Anglia



Epigrams.

19

Anguis in herba.

Hllus hath hid himself this yeere and more,
Not in respect of feare to shew his face,
But for herashly in his humour swore,
The Sessions-house should no more sift his case:
But if you'l needes the reason vnderstand,
He hath beene burn'd already in the hand.

20

Labor improbus omnia vincit.

CLogo will needs be knighted for his lands,
Got by the labours of his fathers hands,
And hopes to proue a Gentleman of noate,
For he hath bought himselfe a painted coate.

Ma

XIIM



Epigrams.

21

Magni constabit parva voluntas.

And off sir Saucebox, she's no meate for grooms,
Or common wights of base borne parentage:
as, your leane expence fits Ale-house roomes,
hat with Maid-malkin holdeth equipage:
Because sir *Tristram* late intreated me,
You therefore thinke to doe as much as he.

22

Quantum mutatus ab illo.

Vould any deeme *Manasses* now the man,
That whilome was not worth a wooden cane
ubtlesse the Dunce in some thing doth surpass,
his red Nose is still the same it was.

K 2

Qui



Epigrams.

23

Quifuit arte Pedes.

THe case is alter'd with *Mercutio*,
Since his preferment to that Noble man,
What er'st he hath beene, boots not now to know,
Those times are chang'd you see, what's then wast
I dare presume *Mercutio* doth forget,
That euer he a Bill in Paules did set.

24

Omnibus hoc vitium.

PR u that had patience to haue borne with any,
And lou'd plaine-dealing (witnesse all that kno'w)
Is now vndone by bearing one too many,
So that you see plaine dealing ouerthrowes her,



Epigrams.

25

Varijs mutata figuris.

*E*tis at length hath left her old profession,
And closely coucheth in a Semblers shop,
Whch may the burden of her late transgression,
ow, with lesse suspect support and vnderprop:
ast To such as knowes her not, she and her wares,
For perfect purenelle with th' Exchange compares.

26

Plus quam prudens nimmus.

*A*Mongst our later knights, sir Thomas knew it,
By common practise more then cunning wooing,
nd That being rich inough he could not rue it,
ff Dicke should take him with his Doll a dooing.

K 3

Hoc



Epigrams.

27

Hoc omnibus datur.

Cutbert our Cobler can no more forbear,
To take *Tobacco*, then to liue vndeowne:
He drinks all whiffes at least, and learnes to sweare
By Heauens; his oathes and humours are his owne:
But adding hereunto a pot or more,
He stands to nothing which he spake before.

28

Premit alcum corde.

Vulcanus guilty, doth himselfe perswade,
Some of these Epigrams by him were made:
But dares not tell you wherein for his life,
Least men should play on him, as on his wife.

Vel

XUM



Epigrams.

29

Velle placere sat est.

Mistresse *Parnella* holds it requisite
To keepe more maides at home then need re-
As well to please her husbands appetite, (quires
As for abroad she like exchange desires:
For thus they absent best content each other,
That else should be but baudes to one another,

30

Pocula iunguntur amici.

A Health, saith *Lucas*, to his loues bright eye,
Which not to pledge were much indignitie:
You cannot doe him greater curtesie,
Then to be drunke and damn'd for company.

K 4

Redd.



Epigrams.

34

Redit orbis in orbem.

Yong Codrus, Land-lord to his fathers rents,
Which happy time (long look't for) did expire,
Addresseth him with those habiliments,
As least beseemes the sonne of such a Sire;
And thus he gallants it some yeere and more,
Vill his Tenants thrust him out of dore.

32

Oculus Adulter.

Ofall the pleasures that our London yeelds,
Calenus commends the walks about Moore-fields,
There's many reasons that prouokes him to it,
He must be looking though he can not doe it,

Mutanus

XIIII



Epigrams.

33

Matauit fortuna genus.

RUFUS was reckoned once a man of might,
That would severely domineere and swagger,
Daring the stoutest of the Guard in fight
At single Rapier, or at Sword and Dagger:
Who would not muse that such a great commander
Should be translated to a lousie Pander?

34

Virescit vulnere Venus.

SUSAN's well sped, and wearez a veluet hood,
As who shall know her breeding hath been good:
It's reason she should rise once in her life,
That fell so oft before she was a wife.

Veluptatis



Epigrams.

37

Voluptatis pratum dolor.

VHAT cause had *Livia* to leaue the Citie,
Where she so flourish't vntill now of late?
Oh, ther's a fault escap't (the mores the pitty)
Which the Church-wardens will not tollerate :
And yet the yeere before they could dispence,
Taking no knowledge of the like offence.

38

Et manibus pedibusq; lenis.

LAys of lighter mettall is compos'd,
Then hath her lightnesse till of late disclos'd,
For lighting where the light acceptance feeles,
Her fingers there proue lighter then her heeles.

Femina



Epigrams.

39

Femina ludificantur vires,

LYce had a secret longing to goe see
Her childe at nurse, for that she dream'd t'was sicke ;
And would by no meanes pacified be,
Till she had scene her pretty little *Dicks* :
Full little knowes her husband (silly groome)
Who by this match ere midnight takes his roome.

40

Fallen tem feme fofellet,

Priscus gaue out he went to *Prester-John*,
Presuming to haue purchast three for one ;
But that t'was knowne, which did him sore beguile,
Priscus had tane the dyet all the while.

Dominatus



Epigrams.

41

Dominatus sernilis.

FELL foughтен *Furio* hath now met his match,
And is severely sent vnto the gaile,
For blurting at Maf-Constable and his watch :
Who bids away with him, admits no baile :
As who shall know hee's now the Kings peace-maker,
Although the last ycere was but Kennell-raker.

42

Par pari.

BAliss (too blame) runs in his Laundressel score,
And will not pay her scarcely once a yeere,
But then his shame is twice so much the more,
For she hath paid him truely to a haire.

Sic



Epigrams.

43

Sic vos non vobis vellera fertis oues.

Heard you in what surpassing rich aray,
Young Roger ruffled on S. Georges day?
T'was pitty more then spite it should be knowne,
That none of all those garments were his owne.
So that in stead of what report did scatter,
Hee simply was non-suted on the matter.

44

Praefat viderique esse.

Clitus with Clients is well customed,
That hath the Lawes but little studied.
No matter *Clitus* so they bring their fees.
How ill the case and thy aduise agrees.

orbs



Epigrams.

45

— *ores nosus urbe Britannus.*

VVV Ho braues it now as doth yong *Histrio?*
Walking in Pauls like to some Potentate,
Richly replenisht from the top tot' h toe ;
As if he were deriu'd from high estate :
Alas, ther's not a man but may descry,
His begging trade, and bastard faculty.

45

Iuneni, quid curua senectus ?

Silla hath got a wife that's wondrous old,
But 'tis well knowne he woo'd her for her gold :
I hope her maides are yong, and serue for hire,
And that's as much as *Silla* doth desire.

Castus



Epigrams.

47

Castus erat vulnus, &c.

KNow you not *Criticus* our Cities Mule,
That haunts the harbours of iniquitie?
Yet like a Beadle of disordred rule,
Lashest at lust, to cloake his villany:
Criticke, tis not your lookes (I dare assure you)
Can feare the Surgeon that of late did cure you.

48

Plus Meonus omnis amat.

PEace, weepe no more (*sweet Su*) and all is well;
Say I had found thee false, thinkes thou Ile tell?
No by this iron and steele, which plainly shewes it,
An honest Wit all is no Gull that knowes it,

Fugit



Epigrams.

49

Pugit buciurisq; peritus.

TObie hath every tearme great suites in hand;
But sits at home like Iohn indifferent;
His wife hath law enough to vnderstand,
What by Joint-tenant and In-tale is ment,
Hauenot our Clarkes with fees beene faine to woe
And for bare knowledge put their cases to her? (her,

50

Omnies querunt sua.

THis obseruation seemes (quoth Fisco) strange,
Why merchants walk in *Pawles*, & knights i' exchāge,
Belike the one seekes those their debts should pay,
Whil esth' other goes to craue a longer day.

Quicquid



Epigrams.

51

Quicquid oritur inoritur.

Zonus our neighbour, and his spouse are parted,
True demonstration of her whoorish hate,
Elle could she not haue beeene so stony-hearted,
To leave her husband for a stragling mate:
But then the statute (*Zonus*) sets thee free,
Thou didst not banish her, she fled from thee.

52

Quam partus ventrem sequitur.

Ralph hath an office in reversion bought,
But rues the time that yet no wit hath wrought.
Content thee (*Ralph*) for wealth to let it passe,
Thou art no worse foole then thy father was.

L.

Now



Epigrams.

53

Non omnibus dormis.

VVHat reason is it *Omphida* should yeeld
To any man that's but a stranger to her?
Thinkes he at first assault to win the field?
Tut let him doe his worst, that worst can doe her:
Had there but colour beene for such intent,
She might allow your weakest argument,

54

Mors ut vita ita.

Leno lyes sicke, and to the Doctor sends,
Who bids him looke for what he least intends:
And being oft to make his will requested.
Away (saith Leno) I will dye detested.

7

XII



Epigrams.

55

Tunc tares agitur; &c.

A Jealous Marchant that a Saylor met,
Ask't him the reason why he meant to marry,
Knowing what ill their absence might beget,
That still at sea constrained are to tarry?
Sir (quoth the Saylor) thinke you that so strange?
Tis done the time whilcs you but walke th' exchange.

56

Ingeniosa Venus.

Edd^s hath got his neighbours wife with childe,
And yet hath not her husbands bed defil'd,
For why the plot within Moore-fields was wrought,
From whence a place was for that purpose sought.

L 2

Sine



Epigrams.

57

Sine criminè nemo.

Guido hath goodly lodgiags, which he lets
To Knights and Ladies, of the better sort,
Nor careth he how little gaines he gets,
So they be honest, and of good report :
But maugre all the meanes that may be try'de,
Guido's braue house will still be baudifide.

58

Nec vultus indicat virum.

Dickē in a raging deepe discurtesie,
Cal'd an Atturney meere necessity.
The more knaue he, admit he had no law,
Mist he be flouted at by euery daw?

In

XUM



Epigrams.

59

In gume suane patientia.

A *Inos* a man of much impatience,
Proves himselfe Cuckold in his owne defence;
And further doubts of greater danger fearing,
Ends to prosecute the good abearing:
His reason is, because he would seeme loth
To be cornuted; and bumbasted both.

60

Sat saltēm sic habeatur.

Alph saies, this rabblement of new made Knights,
Makes Coaches deere, & Chandlers sell their lights,
Scarce a Seruicingman the more is fed,
Foote-boyes onely bring their Sirs to bed.

L 3

Dant



Epigrams.

61

Dant oria ludum.

YOUNG Maister Newcomr, late of th'Ins of Coun
Hath newly laid aside his Littleton,
And for his pleasure deignes no other sport,
Then these vnsauoured rimes to seaze vpon:
Which having read, he comments on the weathe
How iumpe his law and learning met together.

62

Cito parata Venus.

LET Mistresse Sⁿ be stirring nere so soone,
She'l not be ready vntill after-noone,
Nor scarcely then: for why this sommer season,
The least Thing makes her sweat beyond all reason His
2



Epigrams.

63

Quem suspicaueris, ipsa

Uco is fled, more for his credit sake,
Then to be burdened with so base a deed:
Would he (thinke you) such trifles vndertake,
Having that kindred, and so little need?
Damn'd might he be that euer meant to doe it,
Had not his whoore, or somthing vrg'd him to it.

64

Mala crescunt deteriora.

Qao is lately gone to Sturbridge faire,
Whose little takings makes him halfe dispaire:
T'were good some friend of his would tell the mome,
His wife hath had takings too much at home.

L 4

Nos



Epigrams.

65

Non caret effectu quod volnere dno.

COnstant *R enaldo*, who can but commend thee,
That still one Mistrelle in reversion seruest?
She could doe little, if not least befriend thee,
With gleanning licence for so long a haruest:
Gleanning said I? nay more, to mowe her Corne,
And catch the Hare whiles others blow the Horn.

66

E necat amplexu nimis, sic Simia factum.

CAll *D anus* knaue, he straightway draws his sword
And makes you proue as much, or cate your word.
But if you call him honest Rogue, or Iew,
He hugges you then, for giuing him his dew;



Epigrams.

67

Si nihil attuleris, ibis, &c.

Planus, an honest Swaine, but monylesse,
Besought a Lawyer to be good vnto him,
Who eyther (*gratis*) must his cause redresse,
Or promise what he never meant to doe him,
Being asked why he carelesse linged it,
Made this reply: *Ex nihilo nihil fit.*

68

Semel & semper.

Celso but newly wedded, doth repent,
And meanes to be diuorc'd incontinent:
Tut, hang it (*Celso*) since tis done and past,
As good proue Cuckold at the first, as last.

Fermosa



Epigrams.

69

Formosa facies.

Fine Mistresse *Fætida* perfumes her selfe,
With sweetest odours that she can devise,
Which she preferres before all worldly pelfe,
That nought availeth when her beautie dies:
But this dispaire is very death in thinking,
That one so faire should haue a breath so stinking.

70

Sapiat qui vendit oportet.

IAns doth iesting vse Equiuocation,
Which he alludes as doubtfull words of Art,
To hide the colour of his occupation,
But to the Diuell he beares an honest hart.

Consilium



Epigrams.

71

Consilium post factum.

A Ske not Vincentio now when things are past,
Why he so often sported with his Puncke.
Or wherefore so much hath beene spent in wast;
(As good you told a tale to one that's druncke;)
Let it suffice, he hath consum'd it all,
And as you see, walkes like the prodigall.

72

No sutor ultra crepidam.

Philippus flouteth at these ragged rimes,
That much distastng, taxe not these his times:
Indeed I judge him much more better scene,
In other trades that he hath trained beene.

Mols



Epigrams.

73

Mole ruit sua.

Questo that quaint and briske Italian,
When firt his trade for Merchandize began,
Would so much vndertake more then his owne,
(I thinke of purpose to be ouerthrowne)
For when t'was thought his fulnesse did abound,
Euen then he brake for seuenty thousand pound.

74

Parturiente monte myrem.

DEgo will draw, and stoutly stand vnto it,
Vpon the vtmost of his words brauado,
But being vrg'd on equall tearmes to doe it,
He basely pockett vp the bastinado.

Degeneres



Epigrams.

75

Degeneres animos timor arguit.

Monsieur *Montanus* is no little man,
Of vnapprooued valour to his foe,
Perswade, or wooe him with what words you can,
Hee'l be reuenged, all the world shall know :
But when hee found one with his wife in bed,
For feare of knocks he durst not shew his head.

76

Vilescit dimes auarici.

Rufus is wondrous rich, but what of that ?
He liues obscurely, like a water-Rat,
And his apparell, vvhich hee seldom buyes,
Are such as Hounds-ditch, and Long-lane supplies.

Male



Epigrams.

77

Mile parta,malo periunt.

Old Collins sonne is newly come to age,
And may dispend ffeue hundred markes a yeere,
But wanteth wit to holde his heritage,
Which hath beene euermore his Vncles feare:
Because his father got it by extortion,
And therefore ill to be a Woodcockes portion.

78

Habet & musca plenem.

(him,

MOpiss maintaines that bankruptship leise moues
Then such a flauie as for his wiues sake loues him,
Yet well the Wit-all woteth though it grieue him,
Histonuge might starue except her Tayle releeue him.

Olim



Epigrams.

79

Olim hac meminisse dolebit.

Gruntu lies groaning of a grieuous gout,
And would giue thousands to be soundly cured,
But all the cunning that his coync findes out,
Cannot expell those paines so long endured:
Oh Grunto, thou hast liu'd so vntrepenting,
As scarce two hels sufficeth thy tormenting.

80

Matrimonio Patrimonium.

MVSCO, that always kept with policy,
What he had scraped since his infancy,
Scarce one yeare wedded (for he needs would mary)
Hath taken Ludgate for his sanctuary.

Duplex



Epigrams.

81

Duplex Iniquitas.

Now yea and nay, quoth Mistresse Temperance,
You are to blame to be so vainly giuen :
Cannot your eyes vpon a woman glance
But they must couet ? sooth you should be shriuen :
Fye, that you'l sweare so rashly by your troth,
Truely I would not doo't but for your oath.

82

Non omnia possumus omnes.

VVHo sayes Alciles hath no wit, they lye,
His place and office proues the contrary,
Though r'was not meant he should morevnderstand
Then might concerne him to subscribe his hand.

SMT



Epigrams.

83

Sumus omnes deterioriores.

Cornutus boasteth of the debts he owes,
As who should thinke his credit then was such :
But all his substance valued now, God knowes,
Amounts not to the twentieth part so much :
Tis to be thought, because his vwife growes old,
And hath leise doing now a thousand fold.

84

Cani facile inueniendum Baculum.

Madam Ventoza can no longer frolick,
She is so troubled with a sore winde-cholicke,
Which to the standers by may leise appeare,
Because her fycsting-Cur is still so neare.

M

Akud



Epigrams.

85

Aliud simulat, aliud agit.

YOUNG Mistresse *Joyce* her husband doth solicite,
To hire a Garden-house neere to the fields,
Which with her Gossips she might weekely visite,
For something must she haue that comfort yeelds.
Pray God this Bower of priuate recreation,
Proue not a place of common occupation.

86

Quae placuit Domino nuptia est ancilla sodali.

MAdam *Rugosa* knowes not where to finde
One Chamber-maid of ten to please her minde,
But yet my Lord so likes their comely car'age,
As hee preferres them to his men in mar'age.

Cred.

XUM



Epigrams.

87

Crede quod habes & habes.

Orellos wife is lately brought to bed,
As lucke would haue it, of a goodly boy,
The hopefull issue of her maidenhead,
And onely Iewell of the fathers ioy:

Then who would doubt the time, or once but note it,
When it's as like him, as himselfe had got it.

88

Mendici mendaces.

nde, D Andorus spends the day by telling newes,
Of such his trauels as will make you muse:
ay sir, beleue it, hee'l discourse at large,
ow should he else be fed at others charge?

M 2

Eger



Epigrams.

89

Aeger, cui chara libertas.

BRISCO that gallant yongster keepes his bed,
As faining to be sick, but wot you why? .
Not of an ague, nor an aking head,
No burning feuer, nor French malady :
Tush, none of these can halfe so much molest him
As yonder flat-cap foole that would arrest him.

90

Quis modò rusticus, olim.

POLO peckes vp a pretty proling trade,
That hath him prouder then his maister made,
But yet when all is done, the world mistakes him,
For 'tis not amoney, but the Taylor makes him.

A

XUM



Epigrams.

91

Ab Equis ad Assinos.

BRUTUS that braue and compleat Caualier,
(Who but of late in Fleetstreet flourished,
And thought no pleasure or expence too deere)
See now how soone the case is altered:

As that constrained to forsake the street,
He hath betane himselfe vnto the Fleet.

92

Furor arma ministrat.

MAGUS hath studyed long to breake a iest,
Upon these rimes he doth so much detest :
And can you blame him? well he may be chiding,
That hath so often spurgal'd beeene with riding.

M 3

Dabitat



Epigrams.

93

Dubitat mens conscientia cornu.

LEt Iealous *Ralph* but reade of *Capricorne*,
Or simply of the signe that's in the *Ram*,
He straight way thinkes you tax him with the horne,
And thereon haue compos'd some *Epigram*:
If *Ralph* on every rime the worst will conster
It must conclude, in time hee'l proue a monster.

94

Volucrem sic decipit auceps.

Hydrus the Horse-courser (that cunning mate)
Doth with the buyers thus equiuocate,
Claps on his hand, and prayes he may not thriue,
If that his Gelding be not vnder fwe 



Epigrams.

95

Quod mora tardat, abest.

Uscus hath long since learnd his *Accidence*,
And now turn'd *Sexton* (Clarke I meane at least)
Might yet for age more further farre commence,
But lost his time wherein he was a *Beast*.

For why his vather kept him still a *Calf*,
And would not weanc him at twelue yeares and halfe;

96

Perdat qui caneat Emp:or.

No r leſſe meant *Promis* when that vow he made,
Then to giue or'e his couſeneng Tapſters trade,
Who (checht for ſhort and frothy meaſure) ſwore,
He neuer would from thence forth fill pot more.

M 4

Humilis



Epigrams.

97

Humilis iam surgit in altum.

THe world is well amended with sir *Hugh*,
Since from the time he was a shepheards swaine,
And little dreamed then (I may tell you)
He should haue beene one of the knightly traine,
But (for his substance answeres not his will)
As good haue dream'd, or beene a Shepheard stil.

98

Post dulcia finis amarus.

VVhat griefe it was *Grace* had no better fortune,
But that *Bride-well* must her disgrace importune
And which is worse, if worse it might perplexe her,
The Beadle comes behinde her backe to vexe her?

Frust



Epigrams.

99

Frustra sapit qui sibi non sapit.

Zanthus, that wise and cunning Sophister,
Lyes now in Limbo for a small offence,
Who when he came before the Officer,
Had not one word of wit to free him thence,
Why thus it fares, when he should best dispute,
The Diuell, or some ill Planet strikes him mute.

100

Usus promptos facit.

THIS makes Menalcas muse aboue the rest,
To see how quaint my Lady is adrest,
For from the girdle vpwards would he sweare,
She doth the shape of very man appeare.

Hamilis



Epigrams.

101

Humilis prostrata quadrante.

Fine Mistrelle *Delia* defies the man,
That proffers lese to her then golden fees,
What thinke you her some common Courtizan,
That will her credit with each Lobcocke leese?
In faith sir no, but ere you shall goe hence,
She vvill for once accept of eighteene pence.

102

Quam bene notus amor.

Should *Spruso* leaue the wearing of his muffe,
His golden night-cap, and his double ruffe:
He would be still the same he was before,
Por halfe the Parish knowes he loues a ()



Epigrams.

103

O infelices quos fata sequuntur iniqua.

Pontus is postng hitherwards a pace,
To dine with diuers that in Fleetstreet meets him,
But see the lucklesse chance of such a case,
As soone as he alights, the Sergeant greets him :
So that the burthen he should haue defraid,
Is wholy now vpon mine Hostelle laid.

104

Cucullus non facit Monachum.

Siluanus is become so pure and holy,
As he accounts all mirth but idle folly :
Aske him wherefore, he giues you ghostly reason,
But then his whoore comes neuer out of season.

Crescit



Epigrams.

105

Crescit amor pretio.

How like you Dorcas in her deepest Ruffe,
Seemes she not now as proper as the best?
You thinke you may command her, marry mufse?
She scornes the motion, fough, that were a iest:
Because she sold her wares so cheape of late,
You thinket they should be still the selfe-same rate.

106

Senibus voluisse satis.

AE Sop must yeeld when Rodop will ride,
And take no knowledge where, or who's her guid
Yet could the wizard wish her more in sight,
Since she at Braynford lodg'd this other night.

Noct



Epigrams.

107

Nocte latent menda.

VVhat meaneth Rosamond to walke so late,
When no man can discerne her face or fea-
(But by her habite may preiudicate, (tunc?
She is some faire, or rather famous creature:) Oh good Sir vnderstand, t'is in the darke
When many a good man mistakes the marke.

108

Natura pax cōtentia.

Mercis is now become a frugall Sire,
That spends no more then nature doth require;
And yet his wife will proue a Traueller.
Although but once a yeare he lay with her.

Fortuna



Epigrams.

109 .

Fortuna multis nimium dedit.

Now sie vpon thee Coward *Nemius*,
That oft hast puld thy Ladies slippers on,
Yet still wer't bashfull, not so venturous,
As once so much her leg to looke vpon :
Were I thy father, and thou heire to me,
I would for certaine disinherite thee.

110

Hic laqueos tendit, qui laqueo moritur.

VV Ho euer held *Mendoza* halfe so wise,
To haue attempted such an enterprise,
As had not Tyburne soone preuented it,
Mendoza would haue learn'd but too much wit.

Sic



Epigrams.

111

Sic transit gloria mundi.

Pray sir, did you note on Sunday last,
How richly *R ubin* was apparelled ?
Well may he be compared to a blast,
Or vnto one that's metamorphosed :

For on next morning, ere the day did dawne,
All that he wore, and more, was laid to pawne.

112

Post gaudia laetus.

A Yeme (quoth *Amy*) who would ere haue thought
So great a mischiefe should arise of nought ?
Which, had she knowne, ere she began to swell,
Each yard of pleasure should haue prou'd an ell.

Notes



Epigrams.

113

Noctes argé dies patet atria Ianna Ditis.

THe times are waxen dead with *Dalila*,
Who since the Tearme hath felt but little stirring
Then was she sought to more then *Helena*,
When Gallants gallopt with their Coaches hurring :
But now shee speakes with all that please to call,
Lo, thus her trade doth tearmly rise and fall.

114

Linguam vis nulla domabit.

MYns skill in horses doth so much excell,
As no man liuing breakes them halfe so well :
And yet one Filly quite comptroles his arte,
He never backs her but she breakes his hart.

Fronte



Epigrams.

115

Fronti nulla fides.

Geⁿ Allus that greatest Roost cocke in the rout,
Swels now as big as Bacchus did with wine,
Like to a Hulke, bearing himselfe about,
And bristling as a Boare or Porpentine:
Tis not his lockes that makes him looke so big,
For all men knowes he weares a Periwig.

116

Roganti datur.

Marcus stood musing, maugre all his might,
Where he should goe to lodge this other night,
Vntill the Beadle vnawares came on him.
And volens nolens thrust a bed vpon him.

N

Dar



Epigrams.

117

Dat census Honores

Tis plainly knowne that our young knight,sir
Had his beginning from an ancient name, (*Adam*)
And (though notrich) may make his wife a Madam,
That brings her dowry to maintaine the same:
Say,that the Herald cannot blaze him forth,
Must Knight-ship therefore be of no more worth?

118

Tremuit sub pondere Cymba.

Had not *Formosa* a very foule ill lucke,
Whose stooping simply but a rose to plucke,
Made to the hearers that so loudly knowne,
Which neuer yet before report had blowne?

Neg.

XUM



Epigrams.

119

Negat oscula grata rogata.

Riscilla proues most dainty of a kisse,
When of a stranger she intreated is,
Lord, how she simpring sits, and minceth it !
very deed sir, shew'l not eate a bit :
What, would you haue her by and by suspected,
That for a Whoore hath beene so long detected ?

120

Coitum, non oscula laudat.

Vhen Kester courted Kate but for a kisse,
She coyly told him, that he aim'd amisse :
you maist beleue her (Kester) what she said,
halfe the parish knowes she is no maid.

N 2

Cælum



Epigrams.

121

Cælum non animum mutat.

Nay fie, how strange you make it Mistresse Jane,
That will not know your quondam tryed friends
Remember since you lodg'd in Cart-her-lane:
Shall former kindnesse merite no amends?

I say no more, well you may change your name,
But once a Whoore, you should be still the same.

122

Purtius ventrem sequitur.

Maud being mou'd at foureteene yeares to ma
Said (were she tall inough) she would not tan
T'were good her sister but so wise had beene,
That had a Bastard ere she was fifteene.

D



Epigrams.

123

Dives quis stultus habetur?

Is true that *Simon* (simple though you thinke him)
Knowes how to execute his fathers trade,
Whiche (no dispraise) may with that substance link him
quickly shall amend what nature made.
Doe not your most fooles thriue exceeding well,
That haue but wit inough to buy and sell?

124

Hoc aliquid nihil.

Vido hath gotten very goodly suits,
That of his labours are the onely fruits,
neane no other suits then those he weares,
Whiche how to compasse, is that *Guido* feares.

N 3

Qui



Epigrams.

125

Qui deierat peierat.

Dacus hath damn'd himselfe on due regard
From Tauernes, Plaies, Tobacco, and from Wi-
Swearing hee'l liue like John of Paules-Church-yard Th
At least will often with Duke Humphry dine : At
T'were well done (Dacus) hadst thou power to d
But Dice and Drabs (I feare) will hold thee to i

126

Impar atas, imparesq; mores.

IT could not be (me thinkes) imagined,
That Julia could haue lost her maidenhead
Being so yong, but that her selfe first told it,
To whom, and where she this vacation sold it.



Epigrams.

127

Soluat Ecclesia.

Vhen Rose had reckned her full time at large,
She then bethinketh whom to nominate
That might partake with her ensuing charge,
At length, with wisedome more considerate,
She gesseth none mongst all the rest so fit,
As is the parish Priest to father it.

128

Indomite tandem veniunt ad aratra iuuenca.

Lesbia the faire, that would be woo'd of none,
Hath since beene won by many more then one:
And like a flower, whose colour soone doth fade,
With often riding, proues a hackney Iade.

N 4

Casta



Epigrams.

129

Casta est quam, Nemo rogavit.

WHo bruits it Mistresse *Parnelli* is no maid,
And will not answere such discurtesie?
She scornes the very worst that can be said,
And stands so much on her virginitie:
As flatly to their teeth she doth retort it,
Presuming none so vile that will report it.

130

Aureum volat ocius Euro.

Monsieur *Fleming* fraught with Angels store,
Would see faire *London*, neuer seene before:
Where lodging with his Mistresse but one night,
Had (ere he paited) put them all to flight.

M



Epigrams.

131

Musa spernuntur egene.

FAUNUS for feates of Fencing beares the Bell,
For skill in musicke on each Instrument,
For dancing, caruing, and discoursing well,
With other sundry gifts more excellent :
But striuing still to make his credit stronger,
The Taylor will not trust him any longer.

132

Non patitur res seria iecum.

THIS COKE an oath, that *Tomesin* was no maid,
Who angry, bad, beare record what she said :
As good haue publisht it with Trumpet blowne,
As call for witnesse in a case so knowne.

Frustra



Epigrams.

133

Frustra timer, qui sperat nibil.

TVih, hang it, haue at all (sayes Curio)
Comes not duze ace as soone as sixe and three?
Who would not rather halfe his Lands forgoe,
Then be out-dar'd by such a one as hee?
Damne him, hee'l ventur't all vpon a cast:
Weit not as good turne Rogue at first as last?

134

Sic ne perdiderit non cessat perdere lusor.

ASke Ficus how his lucke at dicing goes,
Like to the tide (sayes he) it ebbes and floes:
Then I suppose his chaunce cannot be good,
For all men know, tis longer ebbeth then flood.

Sapias



Epigrams.

135

Sapiat qui dives, oportet.

Tis knowne how well I liue, sayes Romeo,
And whom I list, Ile loue, or will despise:
Indeed it's reason good it should be so:
For they that wealthy are must needs be wise:
But this were ill, if so it come to passe,
That for your wealth you must be beg'd an asse.

136

Similis doctrina libello.

Crasus of all things loueth not to buy
So many Bookes of such diuersity:
Your Almanacke (sayes he) yeelds all the sence,
Of times best profit, and experience.

Nil



Epigrams.

137

Nil gratum ratione carens.

PAULUS a Pamphlet doth in prose present,
Vnto his Lord (the fruits of idle time)
Who farre more carelesse then therewith content,
Wished it were conuerted into rime :
Which done, and brought him at another season,
Said, now 'tis rime, before nor rime nor reason.

138

Ingenio pollet cui vim natura negauit.

IF NANUS had but common gifts of nature,
And no arts cunning to his cubit-stature ;
He neuer could with Ladies come so neare,
Nor get his victuals gratis all the ycare.

Turba-



Epigrams.

139

Turba grani paci Meritrix.

Lenkin is wondrous icalous of his wife,
And vrgeth tearmes of shrewd suspition,
But knowes not him the causer of his strife,
Yet will he yeeld to no condition :

For now you offer *Lenkin* more disgrace,
Then if you horne him to his very face,

140

Quid queat esse diu.

Signior *Fantasmus* ner'e such pleasure found
In any sport, as in a deepe mouth'd hound :
Small was that pleasure, when vpon one day,
He lost his haire, and hunted all away.

Non



Epigrams.

141

Non Hopes ab Hospite tutus.

Lieutenant *Lentulus* liues discontent,
And much repineth at the want of warres,
For when his credit, coyne, and all is spent,
What should he doe but idly curse the starres ?
Content thee *Lentulus* with thine estate,
That wert not idle when thou stol'st the plate.

142

Iam summis ergo pares.

Damon his *Dick* had not this three yeares seene,
But rather thinkes he hath concealed beene:
Was it not strange that they so iumpe should meet,
Both at a Bawdy house in Turne-bull street ?

Turpe



Epigrams.

143

Turpe senilis amor.

Old doting *Claudus* doth in hasted desire,
With beautious yong *Penelope* to wed,
Whose frozen appetite is set on fire,
Vntill the match be throughly finished :
Indeed as good dispatch as make delay,
That must be horned on his wedding day.

144

Incidit in Syllam cupiens vitare Charibdim.

Marcellus museth how to spend that day,
Wherein it likes him not to see a play ;
But then he falles in some worse place (I doubt)
And staies so long till he be fired out.

Læsus



Epigrams.

146

Lasus amor in Furor.

VHere hath sir *John* so long beeene resident?
Leaving his pensiue Lady all amort,
Who well may say (*woe worth the time mis-spent*)
For grieve whereof she hath no list to sport:
But leaue her not againe in such a plight,
Least (out of minde) she proue more out of sight.

147

Nocet empta dolore voluptas.

SIffy and *Kate* are gone to frolike it,
Late in the evening with their *Tom* and *Kit*:
What lucke had they to buy their sport so deere,
That in the morning must haue whipping cheere?

Nullus



Epigrams.

147

Nullus ad amissas ibit amicus opes.

Heard you not yet of Captaine Ferdinand ?
That was so wont to swagger and carouse :
He lodgeth now no longer in the Strand,
But is remoued thence to such a house,
Where all his best acquaintance that he knowes,
Will not redeeme th'one halfe of what he owes.

148

Quid non speramus amantes?

Perce was espoused ere he went a wooing,
What should such Dunces be so long a doing ?
His wife (the wiser) thought to saue that paine,
By getting her a cloake fit for the raine.

O

Ingenium



Epigrams.

149

Ingenium natura dedit, queis non dedit ut.

Nay, see if Stark as yet can cease to flout,
How should hee chuse? his meere conceits are
Tis good sir: He not say you are a lout, (such
Yet may a man presume to thinke as much,
I feare, when we haue both done all we can,
The best will scarce proue good Gramarian.

150

Laseat bene qui male vixit.

Francisco flyes, not daring once come neare,
But makes th'infection to be most his feare:
When those his Creditors that least beleuees him.
Knows 'tis his debt more thē the deuile that drives him

Pain



Epigrams.

151

Patria est ubique.

Rāue minded *Medon* can no more endure
To liue in *England*, then to brooke the lye,
your temptations cannot him allure,
scornes them as an idle mockery :
Urge him no more, I tell you twill but grieue him,
For here his meanes no longer may telieue him.

152

Ignoti nulla Cupido.

Aftus of all sinnes makes most conscience,
That men shoulde with their chastities dispence ;
that weds him, must haue his maiden-head,
him least may chance to bring a foole to bed.

O 2

Hoc



Epigrams.

153

Hoc tibi sorte datum.

NAy (good sir) giue vs leaue at least to know you
Was not your father once a man of trade ?
You now are rich , I know who may beshrow you,
That for your sake were yonger brothers made :
(Hearke in your eare) tis not the wealth you haue
Can shield you from the scandall of a —————

154

Nec caste, nec canic.

Mounsieur *D^a Prie* hath promis'd to take heed
That in the darke he doe no damned deed :
Eye Monsieur, sic, a man of your faire meanes,
And found a bed with filthy Oyster quacanes ?



Epigrams.

155

Ale a nil moderabile suadet.

(most

Vhen *Milo* meanes to spare, then spends hee
Let him but come where sport and gaming is
shumour cannot hold till all be lost,
and neuer thinketh he hath done amisse ;
For thus resolued, *Milo* cares not whether,
He pay th'one halfe, or lye for altogether.

156

Sero sapiunt Phryges.

Estus, that feasted long on delicates,
Now such vnpleasing foolish dyet hates;
it not reason he should spare at last,
hat hath consumed more then all in wast.

O 5

Sine



Epigrams.

157

Sine fuso pulchra venustas.

Mistresse Morinda is more coy then wise,
But faire she is, and that most richly faire,
Her husband beares it out, (let that suffice)
And all defects is able to repaire ;
But yet I wonder they should so excell,
That haue bene bankrupts, all the world can tell.

158

Mortalia cuncta caduca.

Stella the starre, that whilome shin'd so bright,
Is now ecclipsed, and hath lost her light ;
Twas pitty (*Stella*) that thy starres were such,
Better for thee they had not shin'd so much.

Pef

XIIM



Epigrams.

159

Pestis, cum finis amarus.

Ye, would you offer *Winefrid* that wrong,
To set abroach her Virgine chastity?
Well wotteth shee, you cannot loue her long,
And which is worse, the world may it espy:
Which is the thing that makes her looke into it,
Or else you know how easie t' were to do it.

160

Similes labris lactucae.

(street reeles,

Dick swash (or swaggering Dick) through Fleet-
With Sis and Bettrice waiting at his heeles;
To one that would haue ranne the wall, he swore,
Zounds, dost not see my Punicke and Paramore?

O 4

Nec



Epigrams.

162

Nec te quasineris exira.

Sir, can you tell where young Pandorus liues,
That was surnamed here the prodigall :
He that so much for his silke stockings giues,
Till nought is left to buy him shooes withall ?

Oh plaine him not, to make what shew he can,
How should he else be thought a Gentleman.

162

Qui quondam Lixa, Lanista.

Tis said that Whittington was rais'd of nought ;
And by a Cat, hath diuers wonders wrought ;
But Fortune (not his Cat) makes it appear :
He may dispend a thousand markes a ycare.

Anno

XU



Epigrams.

163

Euro cedit bonos.

Bindo hath lost his *Besse* he knowes not where,
And franticke seekes her all the streets through.
Take courage (*Bindo*) and be of good cheere, (out,
To morrow thou shalt finde her, there's no doubt.

To morrow came : deseru'd shew to be shewt,
That brought him home inough to pay his rent ?

164

Sors uniuersa rotat.

SAm swore an oath that those late Lotteries,
Were meere deceipts, and idle mockeries,
For of a hundred, if he two did plucke,
The standers by would say, t'was Cuckolds lucke.

Omnia



Epigrams.

165

Omnia vincit amor.

How comes it *Malcus* liues vnmatried,
That whilome was a tutor to so many,
Doubtlesse his loue hath still miscarried,
And he mis-led, was neuer lou'd of any.
So that I feare, the grieve of what is past,
Will cause the cockfcombe hang himselfe at last.

166

Prauis communia prava.

Aske *Minos* why he marries not, heel'say,
He loueth not, to liue at racking and manger,
Whiles he may take a snatch and so away,
In common corners, like a common ranger.

Hic

XIIM



Epigrams.

167

Hic laqueos tendit, qui laqueo leditur.

Linus, that like to *Aesops* Spaniell snatcht,
The shadow, for the substance, in the water,
Thought his egges chickens, being yet vnhatcht,
And needs would thriue ere Lady-day the later:
Sure thou wert blind, that couldst, or wouldest not see,
To lay a trap for them that now catch thee.

168

Trabit sua quenque voluptas.

VV *At* wils, you know how much he scorneth it,
To be a pick-purse of anothers wit:
But in a pocket, please you vnderstand,
He hath a reaching, deepe, and diving hand.

Tempora

Hic



Epigrams.

169

Tempora mutantur, &c.

ICry you mercy sir, I knew you not,
Thus Courtly Metamorphosed of late,
Your Country kinsfolkes haue you quite forgot,
You braue it out with that Maiesticke state,
As but I now recall whose sonne you were,
You might haue paſſed for ſome Nobles heire.

170

Naturam expellere durum.

Parcus now sparing eſt, ſweares hee'l begin,
To enter commons in ſome Chancery Inne,
And will no longer once a day be fed,
That ſtill before went ſupperleſſe to bed.

Nummos

XUM



Epigrams.

171

Nummos & Demona iungit.

BAt bids you swell with envy till you burst,
So he be rich, and may his Coffers fill,
Bringing th'example of the Fox that's curst,
And thi eatning folkes that haue least power to kill,
For why 'tis knowne his trade can never fall,
That hath already got the Diuell and all,

172

Vixit post funera virtus.

SIlus hath sould his Crimson Satten sute,
And needs will learne to play vpon the Lute,
Tis well done (*Silus*) for such sutes soone waste,
Whereas thy skill on Lutes will euer last.

Gratia



Epigrams.

173

Grata superueniet quae non sperabitur bona.

PErswade not *Romulus* to take a wife,
That is to wedlocke sworne an enemy,
And euer vowes to lead a single life,
Which he accounts most honest purity :
Besides a thousand reasons that constraines him,
And more (but mum) tis known whose wife maintains
(him).

174

Opinio prenalet veritati.

IAsked *Pontus* why he tooke such paines,
To trot in Tearme-time for so little gaines,
His answere was, that such as stand on wooings,
Must, howsoeuer, seeme to haue some dooings.

Moritius



Epigrams.

175

Moritur, cui fama perennis.

A Mongst our Poets *Raunchus* reckoned is,
But leſle beholding to be ſo reputed,
For honest truth it ſelfe knowne to be his,
With fainted Poetry was neuer futed:
Then muſt it certainly be ſaid amifle,
Amongſt our Poets *Raunchus* reck'ned is.

176

Canis ad Vomitum.

M At in the mood of his diſtemperature,
Sweares he muſt fight to keepe his hands in vre,
For being weary of his theeuing trade,
What ſhould he doe, if not approue his blade?

Spernit



Epigrams.

177

Spernit gens rustica musas.

VV Hat tell you me of *Pentus* peasant grome,
That Tarmely posteth vp to purchase pelf
Which he obscures within some desert roome,
And basely liues a stae vnto himselfe?
Spurre him in any point, but in a lease,
You'l sooner tire the iade, then melt his grease.

178

Fouent perireta furitum.

PIso hath stolne a siluer Boule in iest,
For which (suspected onely, not confess,)
Rather then *Piso* will restore the Boule,
To quis the body he will cast the soule.

*Q*u

XUM



Epigrams.

179

Timodos fortuna repellit.

Vhen Miles the Seruingman my Lady kille,
She knew him not, (though scarcely could
So sweet a youth, and well apparelled) (resist
Had not the Dunce himselfe discouered:
For this (quoth he) my Maister bad me say, —
How's that (quoth she?) and frowning flings away:
Next to the heart, she tooke her marke amisse,
And that shée should a Seruing-creature kille.

*Why thus it is, when fooles must make it knowne,
They come on others busynesse, not their owne.*

P

Venali



Epigrams.

180

Venali Veneri suspensa hædera.

A Scoffing mate, that past along Cheap-side,
Incontinent a gallant Lasse elspide :
Whose tempting breasts (as to the sale laid our)
Incites this yongster thus to gin-to flout.
Lady (quoth he) is this flesh to be sold ?
No Lord (quoth she) for siluer nor for gold ;
But wherefore aske you ? (and there made a stop)
To buy (quoth he) if not, shut vp your shop.

181

Nonnunquam iactat egenus.

I Acke is a Gentleman, I must confesse,
For ther's no womans Taylor can be leſſe.

N

Et

Le

Na

VIIIM



Epigrams.

182

Nemo omnibus horis sapit.

*I*s'is that doth his night-cap so much vse,
Was neerely brought vnto his winding sheet,
hose guilty conscience did him most accuse,
at he was plagu'd for walking late the street ;
And well deseru'd, nor could he well doe worse,
Then deale with drabs, be drunke , and lose his

(purse)

183

Pudor est sua damna referre.

*E*ter hath lost his purse, but will conceale it,
Lest she that stole it, to his shame reueale it.

P 2

Prodi



Epigrams.

184

Prodit se lumine Luscus.

L *Uscus* that late lay with his mistresse maid,
And (fearing much to haue the matter knowne)
Went to his fellow, whom he friendly praid
To counsell him, as were the cause his owne :
Hethat (more cunning) knew what should be done
Tooke this aduantage for his better speed ;
To finish that which th'other had begun,
But then alas, she prou'd with childe indeed,
And made the Woodcocke (who did first bewray
Stand to the reckoning, that could better pay it.



Epigrams.

185

Quos ego? sed motos prefar, &c.

Flaccus giues out (because the world shall know it)
How bitter shortly he intends to write,
Threatning therein to firke his fellow Poet,
Gainst whom he beareth such reuenging spite:
But soft (quoth *Flaccus*) should I say hee's poore?
Oh no: least others talke as much of me.
Or shall I tell him that he loues a whoore?
Tush, therein likewise wee both iumpe agree.
Faith, *Flaccus* doubtlesse will his spleene recall,
I,I: As good be friends, nor write at all.

P 3

Quid



Epigrams.

186

Quid non pecunia?

SHall squint-ey'd *Mopsus*, old *Cineanters* sonne,
Be matcht with Beauty for his little pelfe?
Much better were the Lobcocke lost then wonne,
Vnlesse hee knew how to behauie himselfe.
But this hath ever beene the plague of it :
That such are lou'd more for their wealth then wit.

187

Forma bonum fragile.

Marcella now growne old hath broke her Glass,
Because it flatters not as't did : alas,
Who would desire that any sencelesse stone,
Should shew good count'rance, that receiwteth none?

Sorci



Epigrams.

188

Sorte tua contentus.

Bartus being bid to supper to a Lord,
Was marshal'd at the lower end of the boord.
Who vext thereat, 'mongst his Comrag's doth fret,
And sweares, that he below the salt was set.
But Bartus th'art a foole, to fret and sweare,
The salt stands on the boord, wouldst thou sit there?

189

Malum est quod regitur.

Bartellus for a swelling in his groine,
Hath cut his shooe, and of his toe doth whine,
But what by that (*Bartellus* doest thou gaine?)
The neighbours know too well where lyes thy paine.

P 4

Vox



Epigrams.

190

Vox impedit Esurienti.

Gluto at meales is never heard to talke :
For which the more his chaps and chin doth
When every one that sits about the bord, (walkē
Makes sport to aske, what Gluto, nere a word ?
He forc'd to answere, being very loth,
Is almost choak't, speaking and eating both.

191

Semper tibi proximus esto.

(we mē
TH' will that women haue, doth shew the want of wit
For we fro women take our woe, by giuing way to women

Po



Epigrams.

192

Post dulcia finis amarus.

HAUE you not heard of Monsieur *Maximus*,
That lives by lending without interest?
But then he tells you with *prouiso*, thus,
You must assure your lands for such request :
Which done, be sure you ner'e in peace shall rest
But more perplext, then with the diuell possest.

Hen



Epigrams.

294

Hec domus antiqua, &c.

BRUTUS whose buildings cost a thousand pound,
(Being newly fram'd, of late, euen from the ground)
Is fayrer farre then when his Father liu'd,
Because it's richer and more rare contriu'd;
Yet many times I heare the poore man weepe,
Saying, his father better house did keepe:
Which vnto me a Paradox doth seeme,
That what farre worse is, men better deeeme.

N*i*

XUM



Epigrams.

195

Nil referit logui, dum ut iliceat.

A N English Lad long wood a Lasse of Wales,
And entertained her with pretty tales :
Although she vnderstood not how to try him,
Yet gaue consent at last to vnder-lye him ;
Both hauing dallyed with full societie,
(The wench to manifest the more sobrietie)
Told, in her language, she was fully payd :
And *Degon, degon,* once or twice she said,
(*Degon* in Welsh doth signifie enuft,)
Which he mistaking, answer'd thus in snuffe,
Degon that will, (for I protest) so sore
Haue dig'd already , I can dig no more.

Leones



Epigrams.

196

Lenones Leones.

VRbanus that committed an offence,
With a yong country Latte, (poore silly foole)
To salue his credit, soone conueys her hence,
Vnto a Garden-house, or Vaulting-schoole.
Where (now vnladen of that lucklesse ill)
And all dispatched (saue the houshould charge :)
The good-man-Bawd, or Pander (which you will)
Brings him no Ticket, but a Bill at large.
Item for pipkins, pap, and other things,
A mounting all to twenty markes, or more:
And this aloud into his eares he rings,
Pray sir (quoth he) for shame discharge your score.

4

Urbanus

XUM



Epigrams.

Urbanus loath to be proclaim'd a Gull,
Was willing to compound in any wise:
But yet not tendering his demand at full,
Said, he had seene the Lyons once or twise,
The Lyons (answeres he) that may be true.
But thinke you thence to merit any praisē?
Each Lobcocke may those Lyons daily view,
Haue you not seene the Dragons in your dayes?
No (quoth *Urbanus*) that I must confessē,
Then (said the Pander) you must pay no lesse.

Pudore



Epigrams.

197

Pudore suo impudens.

A Certaine fellow of the purer sect,
Who outwardly did holinelle respect,
Could not endure a Surplice in the Church,
Yet was he lately found in such a lurch,
That though he could not with a Surplice beare,
Did in the Chancell yet a white sheet weare.

Nos

XUM



Epigrams.

198

Non ronite seipsum.

Could *Titus* deem the times he now bestowes,
To be the same he did prognosticate,
That thus of late transform'd himselfe not knowes,
He is become so great a Potentate ?
Who would have thought (his father but a Tanner)
The son should brave it in that pompeous manner.

Spernit



Epigrams.

199

Sparnis gens rustica Musas.

VVV Hat tell you me of *Porcus* Pesant-Groome;
That scrapeth vp together so much thrift,
Which he obscures vwithin some desart roome,
And basely liues vnknowne by any shifte.
His lookes are Characters of his discent,
Sprung from the loynes of some mechanick Syre,
That never knew what ciuill vslagement,
But to be onely rich doth still aspire :
Spurfe him in any thing but in his trade,
And you shall see how scone he'le proue a Iade.

787

XUM



Epigrams.

200

Ietus Piscator sapit.

(dayes,

Vhen *Cecus* had beene wedded now three
And all his neighbours bad God giue him
This strange conclusion with his Wife assaies, (ioy,
Why till her marriage day she prou'd so coy;
(Quoth he) we man and wife in manner were,
A month before: then could we haue repented?
Alas (quoth she) had I not cause to feare,
How you might conster it, had I consented?
Fore God (quoth hee) twas well thou didst not yeeld,
For doubtlesse then my purpose was to leaue thee.
Oh Sir (quoth she) I once was so beguild,
And thought the next man shoulde not so deceiue me,
Now out alas (quoth he) thou breed'st my wo,
Why man (quoth she) I speake but *quid pro quo*.

Q

Detur



Epigrams.

201

Detur quod meritum.

A Courtier kinde in speach, curst in condition,
Finding his faults could be no longer hidden,
Came to his friend to cleare his bad suspition,
(And fearing least he should be more then chidden,)
Fell to a flattering and most base submission,
Vowing to kisse his foote if he were bidden:

My foote said he? Nay, that were too submisse,
Yon three foote higher; well deserue to kisse.

Genus



Epigrams.

202

Genus in specie.

VVhat curl'd-pate youth is he that sitteth there
So neere your wife, and whispers in her eare?
And holds her hand in his, and soft doth wring her?
And slides her Ring oft vp and downe her finger?
Sure 'tis some man that's seene in both the lawes.
Retain'd by her in some important cause:
Prompt of behauour in his words and action,
That doth her bus'nesse with great satisfaction.

Q. 2



Epigrams.

203

A malo ad peius

You sent to me to borrow twenty marke,
But to that suite by no meanes would I harke,
Then presently you sent a man in post,
To tell me that a Lord with you would host:
And you must haue to entertaine his state,
A Siluer Bason with some other plate,
Are you a cockescombe? or thinke me a foole?
That should be set againe vnto the Schoole?
Indeed I were a Woodcocke to be wondred,
(Denying twenty markes) would lend a hundred.

LAT

XUM



Epigrams.

204

Lata et aliquid occultum

IF Doll step out of Dores into the street,
But towards Church or with a friend to meet,
What is the cause (it may be some will aske,)
Why slic shill hooded goeth in her maske?
Oh shee's afraid it would be much disgrace,
The wind or raine should marre her painted face.

205

Vsus promptos facit

VVHy striues old Turnus still to haue the wall?
Oh, he is euer druncke and feares to fall.

Q. 3

Semper



Epigrams.

206

Semper idem Inculius.

TOrinus hath left his late mechannick trade,
And vseth now another new profession,
But being still the same that *Nature* made,
Yelds to his former stampe the same impression :
Of whom I well may write this *Epigram*,
No quisquam Sutor ultra Crepidam.

207

Foras expertus.

PRiscus hath beene a Traueller for why,
He will so strangely swagger, sweare, and lye.

Lens,

XUM



Epigrams.

208

Lexit, responso leuis,

Pretius that late had office borne in London,
Was bid by one good morrow *Pretius quondam;*
He, with a iest (no whit put out of temper)
Reply'd incontinent *Adue knave Semper:*
Another in a kinde of scoffing speeches,
Would needes request his gowne to linc his breeches:
Not so quoth he, but sure twill be thy hap,
That for thy knauish head thou linc thy Cap.

Q4

Nil



Epigrams.

209

Nil perdit ignorans.

VNTO a certaine Gentlewomanes chamber
A Pedler came, (her husband being thence)
To sell her linnen, Ciuit, Muske, or Amber:
She francke of fauours, sparing of expence,
So bargaines with him ere he parted thence,
That for a parcell of his purest lawne,
To grant dishonest pleasures she was drawne.

Next day the man repenting of his cost,
Began to thinke vpon some restitution,
How to be paid at length for what was lost,
Which he intends to put in execution;
And therefore bent with settled resolution,
Vnto her husband presently repaires,
To aske him fiftie shillings for his wares.

He

XII



Epigrams.

Her husband ignorant what cause had bred it,
Saies wife, how comes it you haue spent such store,
And must with pettie Chapmen runne in credit?
Now for my honour sake doe so no more.
Good Sir (quoth she) I meant it to restore,
That tooke it of him onely for a tryall,
And finde'tis too high prised by a ryall.

210

Ut nascimur, morimur.

Vhen to the world we came, we nought did bring.
Borne therefore first of nought, & nought dying.

In



Epigrams.

211

In obitum Promi.

THAT Death should thus from hence our Butler
Into my minde it cannot quickly sincke, (catch,
Sure Death came thirsty to the Buttry Hatch,
When he (that busie was) denid him drincke :
Tut twas not so : 'tis like he gaue him liquer,
And Death made drunke, tooke him away the quicker,
Yet let not others grieue too much in minde,
(The Butler gon) the Keyes are left behinde.

212

Impar Impares odie.

SOms hates wisemen (for himselfe is none)
And fooles he hates because himselfe is one.

Quid



Epigrams.

213

Quod nimis, ne quicquam.

Creta respects her husband wondrous well,
It needes no proofe, for euery one can tell
How kinde she is, that if I not mistake,
Her loue extends to others for his sake.

214

Ignorans stimulam.

Vorax is vexed that I thus reprehend him,
Faith if words will not, Silence cannot mend him.

Post



Epigrams.

215

Post carnes Casens.

VVV E make our *Epigrams*, as men taste cheese,
Which hath his relish in the last farewell:
Like as the purest liquor hath his leeze,
So may you yearly end the tale you tell,
The Tayle (of all things) some men aime at most,
Those that had rather fast, may kisse the post.
And ther's an end.

Bis insaninimus omnes.

Thus



Epigrams.

THus haue I waded through a worthlesse taske,
Whereto (I trust) ther's no exceptions tane,
For (meant to none) I answere such as aske,
'Tis like apparrell made in *Birchin-Lane*.

If any please to sute themselues and weare it,

The blam's not mine, but theirs that needes will
(bear it.)

VIT tibi lecta placent, mea sic misbi scripta placebunt;
Iudicio servit gratia nostra ino.
Abicis ista ferius? morietur mea musa dolendo;
Accipis ista libens? illa quod optat habet.

FINIS.

